

Professor Blunt describes double life as MI5 man and Soviet agent

Professor Anthony Blunt, in an interview in the offices of The Times in London yesterday, explained how he provided information to the Russians when he worked for MI5 during the war. But he denied giving Russia information after the war or that he tipped off Guy Burgess and Donald Maclean in 1951 that they were in danger of arrest. He said Mr Burgess recruited him at Cambridge in the 1930s when fascism was the great threat. (Full text begins on page 4.)

Recruited by Guy Burgess in 1930s to aid 'anti-fascism'

Louis Heren

Like any spy who had come from the cold, Professor Blunt yesterday described a great deal about his double life as a spy for the Soviet Union, but not all. He claimed that he was inhibited by the Official Secrets Act, but it also seemed to remain loyal to friends and dead.

Throughout the interview, in the offices of The Times, he was remarkably composed and clearly believed that his confession to MI5 in 1964 and to the public in 1979 was an act of atonement. In Roman Catholic terms, he was in a state of grace.

He admitted that he was a left-wing socialist for Soviet intelligence, at Cambridge in the 30s, and that he provided information to the Russians when he worked for MI5 during the Second World War.

He denied that he had given warnings to Guy Burgess and Donald Maclean that they were out to be arrested in 1951. He did not, and could not, have told them, said Blunt. "I didn't know," he said.

When Guy Burgess came back from America, which was a week at that time, he told him that they were coming in.

"Did you not feel obliged to warn the security services?"

"No, because they were my friends."

Mr Burgess had a contact with Blunt because he rightly guessed that he was in danger. "I would be a prime suspect," he said. "I was a Communist, or more particularly a Marxist, in 1935 or '36. He had been on a political, and on his return to Cambridge, found that the left-wing underground had become Marxist under the influence of Hitler."

The most intelligent was Mr Burgess, who had become a Communist, and was a member of the Communist Party. Mr Burgess convinced him that the Marxist interpretation of history was correct. When Mr Burgess put it to him, he decided that it was "of opposing factions" and he gave Mr Burgess the use of likely recruits.

Mr Blunt said that he spotted a few before he left Cambridge in 1937 to work for the Soviet Union. He insisted that he did not report to Michael Cahan, the chief Soviet

intelligence agent in Britain, or to any other Russian, at that time.

He admitted that he was recruited by Military Intelligence when he applied for a posting in the headquarters of the war. He then joined the Intelligence Corps and served in France until the evacuation.

On his return to Britain he joined MI5, the security service, largely because of the old network. He received only a routine briefing because everybody was too busy.

The Ribbentrop-Molotov Pact, which led many British Communists to recant, did not diminish Mr Blunt's loyalty. He argued that it was a tactical necessity to help the Soviet Union gain time and prepare for war, and while working at MI5 passed on information to the Russians.

His brief was to report anything interesting, but at first his junior rank limited his activities. He mainly reported the names of MI5 officers.

He had access to more information by the time of the invasion of Russia, and with the Russians as allies he continued his espionage activities with a clearer conscience. The information was more interesting, but he claimed that it was almost entirely about German intelligence in Europe.

Mr Blunt said that he passed the information to English friends and a Soviet agent, whom he met in London. He did not know his name, but assumed he was attached to the Soviet Embassy.

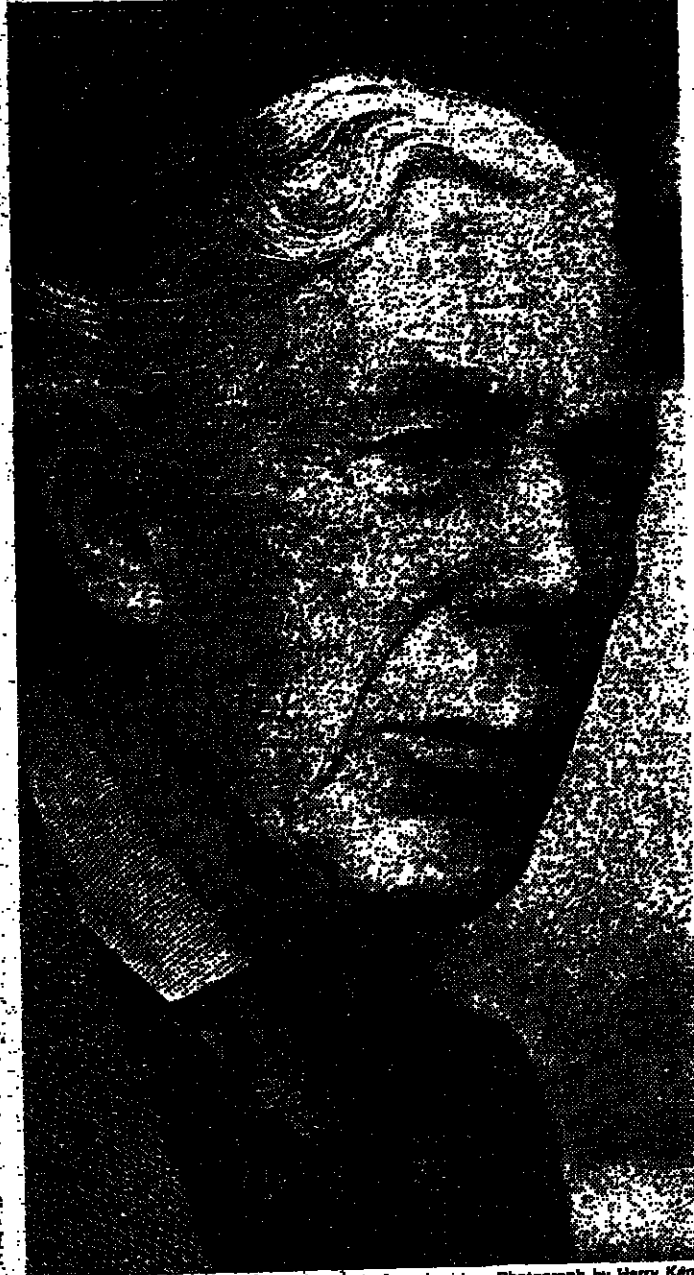
Professor Blunt claimed that he ceased to report to the Russians after the war. He could have contacted them through Mr Burgess, but he had nothing to report—nothing from the Palace, where he was employed as Surveyor of the King's Pictures.

Professor Blunt said: "There has been some reference to a confidential source, which I have been seen at Buckingham Palace. This is, of course, nonsense."

Nevertheless, he kept in touch with Mr Burgess, but only through the intermediary of Mr Maclean, who was frequently abroad. Mr Burgess could be a thirder and a thirder, but was highly intelligent. They discussed everything except politics.

Professor Blunt claimed that he became disenchanted with the Communists and the Soviet Union after the war. It was a gradual process, but after the events in Russia and the occupation of Eastern Europe he was finally convinced that the Communists were the best of all worlds.

After the defection of Mr Burgess and Mr Maclean in 1951, he was frequently interrogated by MI5. They were con-



Professor Blunt: "British way of life the best."

fortable conversations, often with people he had known. He had the impression that some of the people he was talking to were of the same mind as he was. He was approached by MI5 again in 1964, and it was obvious that they knew a lot about his past activities. Their offer was a plain statement: if he could have immunity in exchange for information, he had the impression that the offer had been decided by high authority, from the Prime Minister.

Professor Blunt said he did not know if the thought that he was still in touch with Soviet intelligence and could be used as a double agent. He refused to discuss the information he gave in return for immunity, except that it was regarded as important. Although out of date, it could start a line of research which might be useful.

Professor Blunt said that afterwards he was told specifically that the Palace had not been informed. Later, in about 1972, he was given to understand that the Private Secretary had been told, but he did not know if the Queen was informed.

He said that he had rarely met the Queen when he worked at the Palace. His job was

concerned with pictures, and they met only when a decision had to be made about rehanging or restoring a picture.

He had not considered the possibility that the Queen would be deeply embarrassed if his past was disclosed. He had assumed that it would never come out, and thought that his job was important.

Professor Blunt did not believe that he was more than a spy and a traitor. Mr Philby was not a homosexual, and Mr Maclean was essentially normal with perhaps a slight homosexual tendency.

Craig Seton writes: Mr Andrew Boyle, whose book embroiled Professor Blunt in the Commons, reacted with scepticism to the former spy's statement last night, and said he had attempted to justify his misdeeds on the ground of conscience.

Speaking to The Times soon after Professor Blunt's statement and interview, Mr Boyle said: "I have immense sympathy with him, but not with his misdeeds. It might have been more appropriate if he had expressed a word of regret for his misdeeds rather than seeking to justify them."

Reacting to Professor Blunt's denial that he had tipped off Mr Burgess, Mr Boyle said: "As to his fine distinction as to the role he played in the warning of Burgess and Maclean in May 1951, he has not succeeded in his attempt to explain this away by receding into a version of events. Indeed, his role as a middleman between the Russian control and the two who got away, six years after his claim to have stopped spying for Russia, makes it seem even worse."

Mr Boyle said his sources suggested that there was no official communication by Professor Blunt with MI5 people "but social, and that is just as important."

He accepted Professor Blunt's assertion that he was dictated by conscience, but that was still "morally obnoxious." The answer, he said, was that there was evidence coming out of Russia about terrible repression and killing. "It seems to me people were walking about with their eyes shut."

Watching Professor Blunt on television, he had not seen a man lacking in dignity and command, and he understood his friends' sympathy with his marvelous talents, but "this was a perversion of the brain behind those talents," he said.

Mr Boyle stuck by his account of the fifth man identified in his book by his code-name of "Basil."

Enterprise Board forced to resign

By Peter Hill

The entire board of the National Enterprise Board resigned last night. This emerged after a meeting between the board, chaired by Sir Leslie Murphy and Sir Keith Joseph, Secretary of State for Industry.

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The Government was under strong pressure to resolve the impasse which had developed over Rolls-Royce's request that supervision of its activities be transferred from the NEB to the Department of Industry.

But the dismissal of the board will have much wider ramifications for the Government, especially in its relationship with industry. The board of the NEB included a number of important and influential businessmen whose reputations are of long standing. They include Sir Leslie Smith, chairman of BOC International, Sir Jack Wellings, chairman of the 600 Group and Mr John Gardiner, chief executive of the Laird Group.

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30,000 BL workers on strike

By Clifford Webb and Donald MacIntyre

Thirty thousand British Leyland car workers were on strike last night and production of Jaguars, Triumphs, Allegros and Minis was at a standstill as workers answered their shop stewards' call for an all-out strike to force the company to reinstate Mr Derek Robinson, the dismissed shop stewards' leader.

BL last night rejected a call by the Amalgamated Union of Engineering Workers' executive for reinstatement of Mr Robinson.

The company said that if the union felt that he had been unfairly dismissed, it could take the matter through existing procedures, but the employees resume normal work.

Most of BL's 90,000 employees went to their factories as usual. However, many said they were awaiting the outcome of a meeting of all BL shop stewards before making a decision on strike action. That could mean more widespread disruption today.

The shop stewards called on all 11 unions at BL "as a matter of urgency" to declare the dispute official. They urged BL plants to support the action of 17,000 men on strike at Mr Robinson's own plant, Longbridge.

The 250 senior stewards had been called to a meeting with union officials to discuss the company's latest wage offer.

They quickly rejected it and spent most of the time debating the dismissal of Mr Robinson and the "dismissal next time" warning issued to three other officials after distribution of a pamphlet opposing the BL streamlining plan.

Inquiry refused

Sir Harold Wilson's call for a public inquiry into the death of one of his constituents, Mr James Kelly, aged 30, a labourer, aged 30, in police custody at Huddersfield, Lancashire, has been rejected by Mr William Whitelaw, the Home Secretary. A report on police investigations into Mr Kelly's death is due on Friday. It will be sent to the Director of Public Prosecutions.

Conciliation hope as Mr Atkins urges Ulster power transfer

From Christopher Thomas

The first serious attempt in four years to break the political deadlock in Northern Ireland was launched formally yesterday in an almost unprecedented atmosphere of conciliation among the Province's leading politicians.

The Official Unionists were under intense pressure last night to join the constitutional talks that will begin at Stormont on December 3. The party refused yesterday to break its silence on its intentions, despite an announcement that their fierce competition for the six options for devolved power, he announced resolutely that "there will be an agreement."

The paper contains two vital preconditions: There is to be no question of discussion of the basis of the Republic of Ireland; and any agreement must protect the interests of the Catholic minority.

The Official Unionists may announce their intentions after the executive meets here on Friday, and Mr James Moynihan, the party leader, will set out his position when the paper is debated in the Commons next week. But, if necessary, the Government is determined to push ahead without him.

The Social Democratic and Labour Party, the main Catholic party, is acutely disappointed that any attempt to introduce an Irish dimension into the talks, which are to be chaired by Mr Atkins, will be ruled out of order.

Add the Unionists of all parties are worried that the assurance given by the Catholics implies the hazy concept of power-sharing.

It is a finely-balanced document and one which Mr Gerald Fitz, leader of the SDLP, yesterday described as "unique".

Like the non-sectarian Alliance Party, the SDLP intends taking part in the talks, which could last till the spring.

Mr Fitz said: "We have not had anything like it in Northern Ireland before. It seems to be going out of its way to look for safeguards for the minority Catholic population. The Government has never previously accepted anything like this."

Mr Paisley, who is in Brussels, said that devolution was on offer but in a lengthy statement he failed to mention the extensive action on security that had been his pre-condition for joining the talks. Mr Moynihan is in grave danger of being outflanked by his ambitious rival.

Mr Atkins told a press conference that the Government was advancing no preference for any of the six options for devolved power set out in the working paper, and he admitted that probably none of them would be the end but the one chosen.

The options start with a devolution of all powers except defence, foreign affairs, the economy, the courts, and law and order, to a parliament based on the old Westminster model. This might involve a Bill of Rights to prevent discrimination against the minority.

They then range down to a mere handing over of traditional local government powers similar to those vested with local councils on the mainland. Every model contains provisions to protect the interests of the minority.

Mr Atkins refused to be drawn on Mrs Margaret Thatcher's apparent suggestion of an "imposed solution" of the Northern Ireland problem. He said that the Government will settle for devolving the most minor of powers if that is the best it can get. That, it is argued, would be something upon which further progress could be based.

Working paper and photograph, page 2

Leader article, page 15

Mr Tarling jailed for hiding share profits

From Peter Hazell

The case had cost him £125,000 in legal fees. He was disappointed with the verdict which would discourage investment in Singapore.

At the end of the 59-day trial Mr Kulasekaram, the presiding judge of the High Court of Singapore, rejected a contention by the defendant that executives of Haw Par International, Mr Tarling's company, were not obliged to disclose a windfall of \$7.3m in profits, accrued on the Hong Kong Stock Exchange. Mr Tarling's lawyers claim that the profits were not disclosed because they were unusual and non-recurring.

Mr Kulasekaram also rejected a claim that Mr Tarling was an infrequent resident in Singapore and therefore was not involved in the day-to-day running of Haw Par. The judge added that Mr Tarling had created Haw Par as part of a joint venture with Mr Slater Walker, Singapore, and had, in fact, controlled and run the company from London.

Mr Tarling was sentenced to six months' imprisonment for illegally concealing unexpected profits from the shareholders of Haw Par International.

Mr Tarling, 45, was released on bail pending an appeal, but he said later that he would surrender himself to the Singapore authorities on Thursday to serve his sentence.

He said he had decided to serve his sentence to hasten his return to his family in Britain. He would otherwise have to remain abroad for as long as two years while lawyers prepared his appeal.

He said that after he was admitted to Singapore's central jail in Changi District, he would continue to take legal action to clear his name.

Lambia puts forces on war footing

From Nicholas Ashford

Liberty, Nov 20

Tension mounted along the border between Zimbabwe and Rhodesia today after President Kaunda announced that he was putting his country on a full scale war alert, but stopped short of declaring war.

President Kaunda's move followed a series of Zimbabwean commando attacks against Rhodesia's rail and road links which have virtually severed Lusaka from the rest of the country.

Although Zimbabwe Rhodesia is not confirmed, the attacks are Prime Minister Bishop Abel Muzorewa's move to put the country on a full scale war alert, but stopped short of declaring war.

The consequences, Bishop Muzorewa added, in an affidavit, would be "a result of his completely unrealistic actions and plans."

He added that President Kaunda was making another of his "sweeping sweeping" statements which would further confuse the Zimbabwean people.

President Kaunda has called for the mobilization of National Service graduates and the recall of army and air force officers and other ranks who have been recently retired or released from the services. He called on all Zimbabweans to be vigilant but warned them not to take the law into their own hands.

The President called upon the international community, to come to Zambia's aid, asking for assistance for both Zambia and Rhodesia. He said that the British High Commission in Lusaka, which said it could not accept responsibility for the actions of the illegal regime in Salisbury.

London talks, page 6

Murdoch bid for father's press group

Mr Rupert Murdoch (right), proprietor of many British, Australian and American newspapers, has announced plans to take over the Herald and Weekly Times Ltd, the largest publishing group in the southern hemisphere. His late father was the chairman of the Melbourne Herald. If his bid succeeds he will be the most powerful newspaper magnate in Australia. Page 8

Mr Murdoch, 51, is a former student of the University of Oxford. He is a former student of the University of Oxford. He is a former student of the University of Oxford.

15pc mortgages

A record mortgage interest rate of 15 per cent from the beginning of next year will almost certainly be the outcome of an emergency meeting of the Building Societies Association tomorrow. Page 19

Secret warnings

Secret messages which passed between Washington and the United States Embassy in Tehran have been made public by the students occupying the embassy. They show that the State Department was warned of the repercussions of the Shah's entry to the United States. Page 7

Prince in Ulster

The Prince of Wales made a six-hour visit to Northern Ireland to see the three regiments of which he is colonel and to meet the Ulster Defence Regiment. He was warmly welcomed by the Ulster Defence Regiment. Page 2

West Germany: Proll case

West Germany: Proll case. Lawyers say security chief held back evidence. Page 6

Israel: Food prices soar as budget takes effect. Page 7

Uganda: Cabinet reshuffle gives President more power. Page 8

Information Bill the first casualty

By Fred Emery

The first government casualty of the Blunt scandal is the controversial Protection of Official Information Bill, which Mrs Thatcher yesterday conceded to the Commons would not meet the circumstances.

The Bill, designed to replace the much contested Section 2 of the Official Secrets Act, 1911, had aroused protests from news organisations and their supporters from the moment it was introduced in the House of Lords on October 25. But that protest would probably have been averted if the Bill had not been introduced.

The Bill's intent together with a flurry of written answers preceded the full-dress debate on the Blunt affair in the Commons today, at which Mrs Thatcher promises to make a measure of the Government's attitude to the Bill.

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Thatcher-Giscard dialogue ends in each brandishing the Community law

By Charles Hargrove

There are two ways of looking at the Franco-British "summit" which ended in London yesterday. The first is as a dialogue between two great people, standing on their own feet, and looking at each other with a look of respect and admiration.

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By Peter Hill

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However, it appears that the Industry Secretary pre-empted any question of the board members tendering their resignation by outlining the plans for control of Rolls-Royce by asking for them to resign. The resignations take effect immediately.

The Government was under strong pressure to resolve the impasse which had developed over Rolls-Royce's request that supervision of its activities be transferred from the NEB to the Department of Industry.

But the dismissal of the board will have much wider ramifications for the Government, especially in its relationship with industry. The board of the NEB included a number of important and influential businessmen whose reputations are of long standing.

They include Sir Leslie Smith, chairman of BOC International, Sir Jack Wellings, chairman of the 600 Group and Mr John Gardiner, chief executive of the Laird Group.

Another senior industrialist, Mr Alastair Frame, joint chairman and chief executive of Rio Tinto Zinc Corporation, has been close to the higher echelons of the Conservative administration.

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WORTH PARIS

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HOME NEWS

Scotland Yard officer joins search for the Yorkshire Ripper

By Penny Symon

Commander James Neville, Scotland Yard, arrives in Wakefield today to help West Yorkshire police in the hunt for the Yorkshire Ripper, who has murdered 12 women in the north of England over the past two years.

In spite of earlier denials that Scotland Yard would be called in, Mr Ronald Gregory, chief Constable of West Yorkshire, discussed the Ripper inquiry with Sir David McNee, Metropolitan Police Commissioner, in London last week, and it was decided that a senior police officer from Scotland Yard should be sent to Yorkshire to assist the inquiry.

Mr Gregory said yesterday that Commander Neville would be in charge of the inquiry, and would be briefed on all progress, and any help that he could give would be appreciated.

"There is no Sherlock Holmes or Kojak who could solve the Ripper case," he said. "Since we have not been successful up to now, we are seriously considering what we should do next. We have to consider that there may be another senior detective in the country with ideas different from our own. I know I have mentioned in the past that I would not call in Scotland Yard, but it was to be understood that Mr Gregory was calling in Scotland Yard would mean calling the man to take over the inquiry. There is an intention of that here."

When senior investigators

got together, he said, it was possible that they could think of something that had not been tried.

There has been criticism in Yorkshire of Mr Gregory's previous refusal to ask for assistance from Scotland Yard, and of the apparent lack of progress made by West Yorkshire police. A total of 23m has been spent and there are 300 detectives from three police forces working on the inquiry.

Some of the credit for yesterday's announcement by Mr Gregory, that Commander Neville was being called in, is being taken by Thames Television, whose programme, *TV News*, tomorrow evening, examines the Yorkshire Ripper inquiry. Mr Robert Southgate, the programme's reporter, interviews local people, including police officers, who say that they are very frustrated by the fact that Scotland Yard should be asked to help.

Mr Southgate also interviews Mr Gregory, who says that the days of calling in Scotland Yard were almost gone. It was said in the past by small forces with lack of experience, he says, but he was not planning to do it in this case.

Mr Southgate said yesterday that filming had ended before Mr Gregory was to see Sir David McNee. Mr Gregory had been aware of the criticism.

"I think that our programme influenced the timing of Mr Gregory's request to Scotland Yard," he said.

Spinal unit stays open after revolt by patients

The government announced a reprieve yesterday for the spinal unit at Stoke Mandeville Hospital, near Aylesbury. The unit, which has been closed since an occupation by patients in wheelchairs protesting at plans by Buckinghamshire Area Health Authority to close two wards.

The decision was given by Dr Gerard Vaughan, Minister of Health, in a Commons written reply. He also visited the hospital, and told the patients that its future was safe.

Nearly two weeks ago Buckingham health authority posted in a bid to cut costs in an attempt to cut costs.

The stay of execution was gained by 70 patients who paraded through yards with placards and chained themselves to ward doors. A hundred of them were at the hospital yesterday to meet Dr Vaughan. Demonstrators from health service unions were also present.

They cheered Dr Vaughan when he said: "I came here today to make sure the unit stays open. It is not just a small unit, it is a national unit. Nine out of 10 patients come from outside the area. The government has the responsibility to make sure it is safeguarded."

As well as promising no further reduction in the 110 beds, Dr Vaughan said one spinal ward closed by staff shortages would be reopened soon. He has agreed to resume the recruitment of nurses.



Getty home for sale: Sutton Place, near Guildford, Surrey, home of the late J. Paul Getty, the oil millionaire, who died in 1976, is to be sold (our Estates Correspondent writes). No one is hastening to put a figure on the price

it might realize, but professional estimates put it at several millions. The sale is through Linton Residential, of London. The house, which Mr Getty acquired from the Duke of Sutherland in 1959, was built between 1521 and 1526 by Sir Richard Weston, a friend

Sex banned from drink advertising

Advertising claims that a drink may encourage sexual success were banned yesterday. Advertisements can no longer imply that a drink can improve physical performance. The ban was announced by the Incorporated Society of British Advertisers and has been welcomed by the Department of Health.

A revised code of practice says that advertising must be socially responsible. "The immature, the young, the socially insecure or those with physical, mental or social incapacity, should not be the targets of alcohol advertising."

The new rules state that advertisements should not be directed at young people or in any way encourage them to start drinking. Anyone shown drinking must be, and appear to be, over 21.

Advertisements should not be based on a dare, nor impute any failing to those who do not accept the challenge of a particular drink.

The revised code also says advertisements should not emphasise the stimulant, sedative, or tranquillizing effects of any drink. They should neither claim nor suggest that any drink can contribute towards sexual success, or make the drinker more attractive to the opposite sex.

The code states that moderate drinking is widely enjoyed and helps to make social occasions cheerful and pleasant, but a significant minority of drinkers harm themselves.

Sir George Young, Under Secretary at the Department of Health and Social Security, welcomed the strengthening of the code. "Advertisers had rightly recognized the seriousness of alcohol misuse," he said.

By adopting more explicit and comprehensive rules to safeguard against brand advertising encouraging misuse, they have made a significant contribution to tackling the problem."

Threat to family butchers

By Our Agriculture Correspondent

Family butchers were a disappearing species, Mr Edward Redmond, managing director of Buchanan Meat Producers, the largest meat cooperative in Scotland, said yesterday. "I think it will happen because there is such competition among High Street supermarkets," he said.

They enjoyed a small percentage of the fresh food trade where profit margins were higher than on processed foods such as baked beans.

"It is the younger housewife who buys a larger and larger share of her meat from the supermarket," Mr Redmond said at a press conference in London about meat marketing that two-thirds of the trade in processed groceries was held by only six large groups. He expected the same to apply to meat in a generation with the present total of more than 20,000 independent butchers reduced by more than a third.

Cadmium in teeth of children

Higher than normal levels of cadmium have been found in teeth from children in the village of Shipham, Somerset, where concentrations of the metal have been found.

Preliminary survey results show that the concentration of the toxic heavy metal was an average one third higher than that found in Bristol children and some of the teeth from the Shipham children, who were between nine and 15, had twice the normal level.

The survey was carried out by the Medical Research Council's Dental Unit in Bristol and is reported in a letter to the *British Dental Journal*.

Dr Maurice Smith, the biochemist in charge of the survey, said: "The findings are not a cause for alarm. The concentration is only one tenth of the level found in some parts of the world."

"But we ought to keep an eye on this and concentrate on the two housing estates built directly over the old mining area. Until now we have been sampling the whole village."

High levels of cadmium have been found near some new houses that are closest to the mine. The Shipham village came into prominence last January when it was disclosed that some parts of the parish were contaminated with cadmium.

The Government ordered a teeth survey and the interim report published last October said that based on the limited results then obtained, there was no general health hazard.

The 1,092 villagers have been advised not to eat locally grown vegetables.

Kicks 'likely cause of fatal injury'

From Our Correspondent Manchester

Chest injuries which led to the death of a man, aged 36, were likely to have been caused by two kicks, a doctor told Mr Justice Tudor Evans at the High Court in Manchester yesterday.

Dr David Paul, a consultant, said he believed considerable force would have been necessary to fracture four ribs and rupture the spleen of Edward Platt, aged 36, in a clash with police at his home six years ago.

Mr Platt's family is suing Greater Manchester police in a contested case. They are claiming damages arising out of his death five weeks after the incident in May, 1973.

Mrs Norma Wood, aged 39, who has since remarried, has alleged that her former husband was kicked in the chest by a policeman who, with others, had been called to the house by a doctor when Mr Platt became violent after a drinking bout.

Mr Platt was said to have made a statement while in bed that he was kicked twice.

Dr Paul, a witness for Mr Platt's family, said he did not think the injuries could have been caused by colliding with a radiator or in a fall.

He said: "A single kick would be the improbable cause. Two kicks would be necessary."

Earlier, Mrs Wood said the police were polite and helpful at her home in Woodstock Road, Moston, Manchester. She saw no undue violence by them.

The hearing continues today.

Make juice from surplus apples, farmers urge EEC

By Hugh Clayton

Agriculture Correspondent

British farmers urged the EEC to curb its vast and worsening surplus of apples by investing in juice-extraction factories.

Officials of the National Farmers' Union said yesterday that the surplus of apples in the EEC in Britain had risen to almost 10,000 tons this year from the 2,500 tons disclosed in the Times last week.

Most of the British surplus will be dumped under official supervision on farms although a small tonnage will be fed to livestock. The British excess is dwarfed, however, by a surplus throughout the Community of well over 500,000 tons.

Some of it will be left to rot in orchards and some will be bought under the apparatus of the Common Agricultural Policy for official dumping. Only a small proportion will be sent to institutions approved under the policy such as hospitals and prisons.

"We hate to see these piles of apples lying about," Mr

Jack French, chairman of the apples and pears committee of the NFU, said yesterday. Growers will meet Mr Peter Walker, Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, tomorrow to ask for aid towards improving orchards.

"We have a figure in mind which is fairly frightening," Mr French said.

Whitelaw praise for self help

By Ian Bradley

The development of increasing voluntary activity in the fields of health and social services was in line with the Government's policy of reducing the state's role, Mr William Whitelaw, the Home Secretary, said yesterday.

Mr Whitelaw, speaking in London at a one-day exhibition on voluntary organizations held by the National Council of Social Service, said: "As a government we believe in the importance of the voluntary sector. In health and leisure as well as in sickness and trouble, innumerable needs are met and problems solved without the intervention of the state."

"We are emerging from a period of growing state paternalism. The cry was increasingly 'Let them do something about it.' What we should be saying is 'Let us do something about it.'"

Mr Whitelaw said that proposals made by the Goodman Committee in 1976 for greater fiscal relief for charitable giving were still under study.

Social service chiefs to fight cuts

A new campaign against social services cuts was announced yesterday by the Association of Directors of Social Services.

The association will appoint an officer to coordinate the campaign's activities in an attempt to persuade the Government that the most vulnerable people will suffer if the 7 per cent cut demanded in the recent White Paper on public expenditure is implemented.

The directors, normally a group loath to take public stands on political issues, are particularly angry that the social services are being asked to make larger cuts next year than any other local authority service.

Mr Wally Harbert, retiring president of the association, pointed out yesterday that the 28m cut asked for could have been avoided either by keeping Britain's contribution to the

EEC at this year's level or by reducing the expansion of defence expenditure by 1 per cent.

The 7 per cent will have a profound effect on social services departments, which by definition care for the most vulnerable people who have fallen through other services, Mr Harbert said. "There are no easy targets to be made in social services. We have to make sure that there is pressure on the public and on politicians to produce the necessary examples of where cuts actually affect vulnerable people."

The campaign was announced during the annual social services conference, organized jointly by the Association of County Councils and the Association of Metropolitan Authorities, both of which are Conservative controlled and which broadly support the Gov-

ernment in its public spending cuts policy.

The conference is due to be closed today by Patrick Jenkin, Secretary of State for Social Services, who can expect support from the associations but criticism from the directors are reminding delegates that while in Opposition Mr Jenkin promised that an incoming Conservative Government would wish to maintain expenditure on social services at present levels.

The impending cuts have so far dominated the conference and many of the 400 delegates are frustrated at the lack of discussion on their implications open to the floor.

The directors resolved unanimously to call on the Government to restore financial support to local authorities to allow them to at least maintain previous levels of social services provision.

Overtime ban by orchestra threatens to shorten opera

By Martin Huckerby

Music Correspondent

A shortened version of Verdi's *Aida* will probably have to be performed at the English National Opera tonight and on Saturday because of an overtime ban instituted this week by the orchestra.

The intervals will be cut short and the production will be seen in a slightly reduced form. There will also be musical cuts.

Mr Bernard Parris, secretary of the Central London branch of the Musicians' Union, said new salary scales should have been introduced at the start of the season in August. So far the management had only offered a 12 per cent increase, giving a minimum salary of about £100 a week.

The orchestra had finally decided to impose sanctions, working for only seven three-hour sessions a week. If *Aida* was performed uncut, they would cause two sessions and thus other performances

could be halted. At the moment other productions are not affected as they can all be completed within the three-hour limit.

The cuts could still be avoided if the management could make a new offer to the union at a meeting this morning. The musicians' full claim is for a minimum of £140 a week, but Mr Parris said the players were willing to accept a compromise.

A similar dispute is continuing at the Royal Opera House, where the management is also offering 12 per cent and the Association of Musicians there has caused the cancellation of performances of Strauss's *Der Rosenkavalier*. The unions meet the management again on November 28.

Both Covent Garden and the Coliseum are in difficulties over increasing their offers because of their financial difficulties, caused by inflation and by grants they believe to be inadequate.

Flights delayed five hours by thick fog

Fog covered Heathrow airport, London, yesterday morning, reducing visibility to 100 yards, delaying flights for up to five hours and causing diversions to dozens of flights.

Inbound services were diverted to Gatwick, Prestwick and airports throughout Europe. Visibility improved by midday and airlines started to clear the backlog of passengers and flights.

Liverpool and Manchester airports were also closed by fog.

A motorist was killed and several other people seriously injured in more than 20 accidents after freezing fog blanketed North Merseyside. Police closed both carriageways of the M62 motorway over a 15-mile stretch from the Liverpool exit to allow rescue and salvage work to continue.

Motorists' organisations described conditions as chaotic and said that many drivers had acted irresponsibly.

Oil pollution menace to sea birds 'enormous'

By Pearce Wright

Science Editor

A survey of oil pollution round the British Isles concludes that the Government and industry have failed to tackle the difficulties, and that international law has proved equally ineffective.

That is the judgment contained in a report submitted to the Royal Commission on Environmental Pollution by the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds.

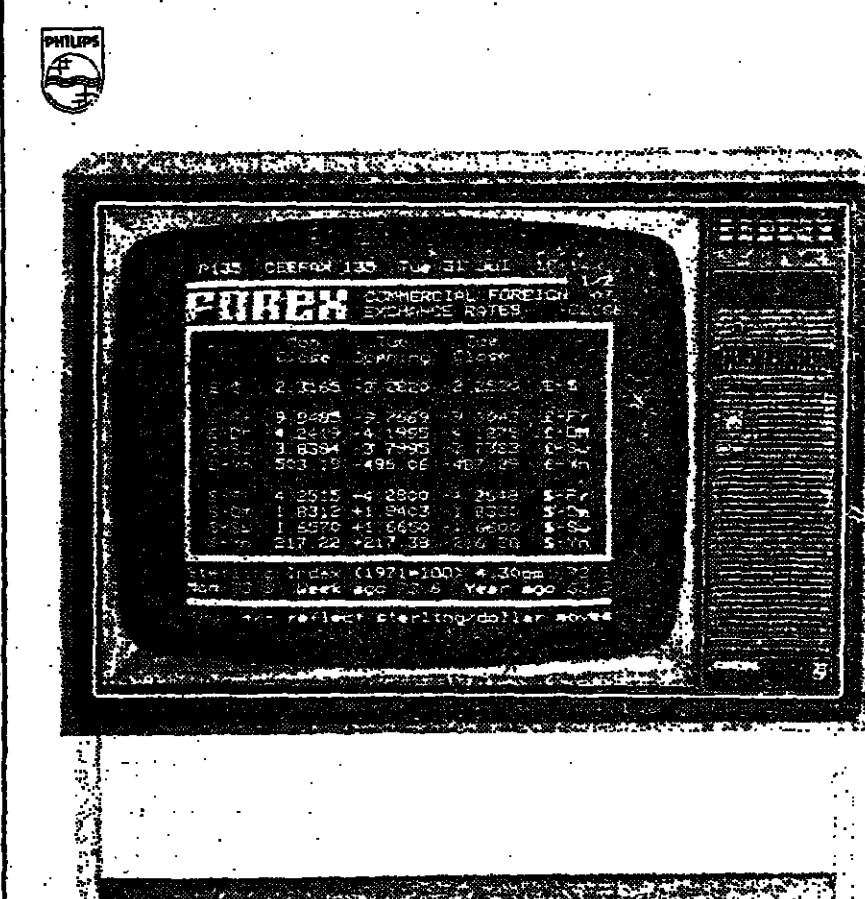
Records covering more than 70 years, from the first known oil spill off the Isles of Scilly, show an acceleration of damage to marine life over the past few years.

In the worst period on record, between October, 1973 and June 1979, 16 pollution incidents killed more than 12,000 sea-birds. Of these nine incidents killed more than 7,000 birds off the coasts of north Scotland, Orkney and Shetland.

An indication of the decline in colonies is highlighted at Freshwater, Isle of Wight, where a total of 3,000 guillemots in 1937 had dropped to 1,200 by 1946, to 90 by 1967, and to 39 by 1972.

The report says that birds like divers, grebes, sea-ducks, and auks are most vulnerable. More than 40 recommendations are made in the document, *Marine Oil Pollution and Birds*, concerning prevention, research and development. They are based on the opinion that, with the development of North Sea oil fields, and increase in tanker traffic, the potential for damage to densely packed populations, particularly off Scotland, is enormous.

The recommendations include: extension of the three-mile limit at sea to 12 miles; enlarging the United Kingdom's jurisdiction over foreign vessels; joint action by the EEC coastal states against oil pollution; and better policing of the seas, so that ships discharging oil can be detected and fined heavily.



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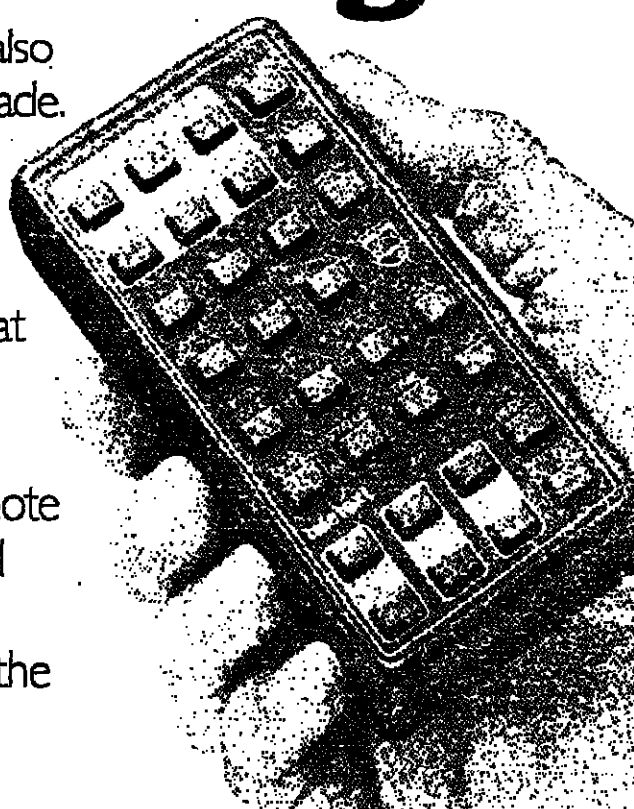
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BLUNT INTERVIEW

Professor Blunt tells how he spied for Russia

Professor Blunt was interviewed yesterday at the Times building in Gray's Inn Road after issuing his statement. The questions were asked by Louis Heren, Deputy Editor of The Times, Stewart Tendler, Crime Reporter of The Times, and David Leigh, a member of The Guardian staff. The interview, which lasted for more than one hour and twenty minutes, was recorded by staff from the BBC and Independent Radio News. Professor Blunt was not given any warning of the questions to be asked although Mr Michael Rubinstein, his solicitor, was present throughout the interview. The transcript is as follows.

Professor Blunt, I would like first to give you my position as a journalist as far as this interview is concerned. The Prime Minister announced in the House that you worked for the Soviet Union, that in 1964 you confessed and were granted immunity, or absolution, if you like. Therefore we are not sitting here in moral judgment. We just want information, what happened?

Q: Now judging from your 1937 essay on art under capitalism and socialism, which I read with great interest, you were a convinced Marxist at the time. I mean only a Marxist could have written that essay. So would you first like to tell us when you first became a communist and why?

A: I became a communist and more particularly a Marxist in 1935, I say, 1935-36. The origin of it—the history of it is this: I had a sabbatical year leave from Cambridge in 1933-34 and when I came back in October, 1934, I found that all my friends—this is an enormous amount of my friends and almost all the intelligent and bright young undergraduates who had come up to Cambridge—had suddenly become Marxists under the impact of Hitler coming to power and there was this very powerful group of Communist intellectuals in Cambridge of which Guy Burgess was one, James Klugman was another, John Cornford was another. It was a very remarkable group of enthusiasts, gave if you like, highly enthusiastic and highly intelligent and of those the person I knew best, whom I already knew very well, was Guy Burgess. He had become a totally convinced Marxist and an open member of the Communist Party. And in discussions with him, his interests were extremely wide, covered art, my own particular interest—and in discussions with him and also with James Klugman, was very much that I became convinced that the Marxist interpretation of history was right and therefore this was where the logical break took place and therefore that one ought to be a communist at that moment. And when Guy put it to me that the best way to help, to try to help anti-Fascism which was obviously the issue of the moment and it became, of course, much more acute with the Spanish Civil War in 1936, was to help him in his work for the Russians, I agreed.

Q: May I ask you what you went on that sabbatical leave for a year?

A: I was mainly in Rome. I was working on architecture. I was mainly in Rome and otherwise in south Germany.

Q: I ask that question because it was suggested that in fact you went to Russia at one point with Burgess. A: I did go to Russia for a holiday, not with Guy, in 1935—whether it was 1935 or 1936 I can't remember. It was one of the ordinary tourist visits. It was not... I went with a group of enthusiastic young left-wing mainly communist students mainly undergraduates.

Q: Can you put a precise date on when Guy enrolled you?

A: No. I could only say I should think late 1935, early 1936.

Q: So it was before the Spanish Civil War?

A: I think it was just before.

Q: Now at that time your main activities were in the cause of anti-Fascism, was that to be a talent-spotter?

A: Yes.

Q: Were there any other duties you performed at that time?

A: No.

Q: How many of them did you spot?

A: Well this is something I'm afraid where I must take refuge behind the Official Secrets Act.

Q: Did Guy Burgess suggest to you that you should be a talent-spotter?

A: Yes.

Q: Was this because you were then a fellow of Trinity and a sort of father figure to a generation of undergraduates?

A: Up to a point. It was certainly connected with the fact that I was a fellow of Trinity and was therefore resident in Cambridge.

Q: If you cannot say who you may have spotted, can you say for how long you pursued this role?

A: Until 1937, when I left Cambridge and came to London.

Q: So that would be from 1935 to 1937?

A: Yes. From 1935 or 1936.

Q: What did you do when you got to London?

A: I got a job at the Warburg Institute.

Q: And did you still work as a talent-spotter or anything?

A: No.

Q: Just to go back on this, I do not quite see how the Official Secrets Act would apply to dis-

closure of how many you recruited. It is not information that you obtained from...
A: But it is I think an official secret.
Q: It is an official secret if it is government information. I cannot see how, how many you spotted, constituted an official secret. Do you mean that you have been asked not to reveal this?

A: Well, I suppose it means that I have revealed this to the security service and therefore it becomes an official secret.

Q: Let us put it this way, let us say and quantify it very roughly: Did you—very few or many?

A: Very few.

Q: Is this an area you discussed with the Cabinet for example—are you open to disclose? Are you taking decisions on what you can disclose and what you can not, on your own authority or after discussion with Sir Robert Armstrong (Secretary to the Cabinet)?

A: No, I think on my understanding of the Official Secrets Act.

Q: But you say very few?

A: Yes.

Q: Now was Burgess your only connection with Soviet intelligence?

A: I knew of the existence of Philby and Maclean.

Q: At what point did you know of the existence of Burgess and Maclean?

A: Philby during the war; both of them I think during the war. I am just trying to set my memory of dates.

Q: But they were your only connection with Soviet intelligence?

A: Yes.

Q: There was not a man, an agent, no letter drops, or anything like that?

A: I was eventually in touch myself. I don't know with whom; I have no idea what his name was.

Q: When was that?

A: I suppose during the war.

Q: And how did you communicate?

A: Well, that I'm afraid I cannot say.

Q: During that time were you not in fact, I believe, staying on quite a few occasions with a friend in Ireland?

A: No.

Q: As I understand it, professor, when the war came you were actually rejected by military intelligence?

A: Yes. Well, I was accepted and rejected by the same body.

Q: And then you joined the Army?

A: Yes.

Q: You went to France, came back, then you joined MIS. How did you join? Did you apply or was it arranged for you or how?

A: Well, like all those, that kind of recruitment, it was done simply. Someone who was in MIS recommended me. I was recommended.

Q: The old boy network?

A: Yes.

Q: Can you name that person?

A: I would rather not.

Q: Can I just go back on one point? Is he clean?

A: Perfectly.

Q: When you said you could not group, you communicated, is this again because you prefer not to interfere with the Official Secrets Act?

A: I should have thought it was an official secret.

Q: Those who were accepted, or when you applied to MIS in 1940, did they vet you?

A: Only I think in a very routine way.

Q: Why is that?

A: I think I was vetted when I joined. I joined intelligence in 1939.

Q: The Intelligence Corps?

A: The Intelligence Corps, yes, and it was a moment I think when, owing to pressure, vetting was undoubtedly very important. I mean they did field security and things like that.

A: Yes, well of course, I was...
Q: You were... did there was no reason why they should give you a complete vetting. So, when you applied for MIS you say you were vetted in a routine way. Was that because everyone was so busy?

A: Well, I think it was.

Q: Presumably the old boy who recruited you to MIS would have been aware of your open past convictions?

A: Yes.

Q: When you were with MIS during the war, to whom did you pass on the information? Was it an agent or was it one of your English friends?

A: Both.

Q: So you never met the agent?

A: Yes I did.

Q: You did meet the agent. A Russian?

A: Russian.

Q: Could we have his name?

A: I do not know it.

Q: Was he with the embassy?

A: I suppose so.

Q: Did you ever meet?

A: Well, again I think that these are things that should not be discussed.

Q: In London, casually?

A: In London, yes.

Q: Was this before the German invasion of Russia or after?

A: Mainly after. I joined MIS in 1940.

Q: What sort of information was passed before the invasion?

A: Almost nothing. At that point I was in a very important section—a section where I had very little access to very little information—it could have been of the most routine kind.

Q: What kind of routine kind?

A: Who were members of the office.

Q: Was that a help to them do you think?

A: I should think they knew most of it already.

Q: How did you agree about what kind of thing was required? I am interested in the mechanics of this. Were you told this is the kind of help that would be helpful to us or helpful to the cause of anti-Fascism?

A: Up to a point, but the general brief was, I think, quite untruthfully that anything.

Q: Now, after Russia's entry into the war, what kind of information did you pass them? Presumably you were in a more senior position?

A: Well, then I moved; it was not so much senior but to a position where I saw much more information and it was almost entirely about the German intelligence services. Largely intercepts; mainly intercepts.



Sitting at the head of the table, Professor Blunt faces the press.

'This was political conscience against loyalty to country: I chose conscience'

In the mid-1930s it seemed to me and to many of my contemporaries that the Communist Party and Russia constituted the only firm bulwark against Fascism, since the Western democracies were taking an uncertain and compromising attitude towards Germany. I was persuaded by Guy Burgess that I could best serve the cause of anti-Fascism by joining him in his work for the Russians. This was a case of political conscience against loyalty to country: I chose conscience.

When later I realized the true facts about Russia, I was prevented from taking any action by personal loyalty; I could not denounce my friends. In 1964 an event took place which meant that I was no longer bound by this loyalty, and being promised immunity, I was relieved to give the authorities all the information in my possession.

From 1945 I ceased to pass information to the Russians but in 1951 I was in contact with them on behalf of Burgess. I was myself pressed to go to Russia. I refused.

Andrew Boyle has stated that I obtained from a former colleague in MIS the exact date on which Maclean was to be interviewed. There is no truth in this story. I had no contact with MIS between 1945 and 1951, and I had no information from any other source as a result of which I might have tipped off Maclean; and I did not in fact do so.

In 1945 I went back to my normal academic work and was also appointed Surveyor of the King's Pictures. I did not apply for or seek this appointment, but I was pressed to allow my name

to be put forward, and, when offered it, accepted on the grounds that I knew there was much work to be done on the collection and that I believed I could do it. I resigned from the post in 1972 on the grounds that I felt I had done what I could for the collection, which was in effect being looked after by my deputy, Sir Oliver Miller; but I was asked to stay on as Adviser for the Queen's Pictures and Drawings.

In 1956 the Queen honoured me with a knighthood. It has been said that I "accepted" the knighthood. In fact, as a member of the Royal Household, I was not told in advance and the first that I knew of the matter was reading the announcement in *The Times*. When Mr Michael Rubinstein told me that the Queen was going to strip me of my knighthood I immediately wrote to the proper authority offering to resign it, but presumably the letter did not arrive before the announcement was made.

When I was told of the impending statement in Parliament by Mrs Thatcher I did not at any time contemplate leaving the country. But I realized that there would inevitably be a barrage of inquiries from the Press while questions were being asked in Parliament and I knew that I could not give helpful answers to questions which might be put to me so long as I was unaware of exactly what the ministerial answers would say. I should add that I remained, as I still remain, under the constraint of the Official Secrets Act.

I am encouraged by the letters from my former students and by messages from colleagues and friends to hope that I shall be able to resume my work as an art historian.

Q: German intelligence, where, in Britain or...
A: No, no, in Europe.
Q: You say almost. What else did you say?

A: Well, again, purely routine things, like membership of the office and so on.

Q: Was MIS... at the time concerned about Soviet activity in Britain?

A: Theoretically, yes, but of course it was a very minor issue. Everything was focused on the German problem, and there was a section technically looking after Soviet activities and the Communist Party. But it was very small and very inaccurate, as one can imagine.

Q: Did you have Soviet information to this effect? As I understand it, there was some concern about Soviet activity in Britain?

A: Presumably you would have passed on the information?

A: If I had had it, I would have passed it on. I don't remember it.

Q: But you would have passed on information that was relatively inaccurate?

A: Yes.

Q: During this period, from Russia's entry into the war until the end of the war, when you were working for the Soviet Union, your conscience was clear that you were contributing to an Allied force?

A: Very much so.

Q: Many of your colleagues at Cambridge and elsewhere at the start of the war when Germany and Russia signed a pact, I believe actually abandoned communism, in disgust. You did not. What did you feel about that?

A: Well, I did not because we argued that it was simply a tactical necessity for Russia to gain time, as indeed turned out to be the case: it gave them time to rearm and to get stronger to resist what was clearly going to happen. I think a lot of people felt that at that time.

Q: At the end of the war, you were demobilized; what did you do for the Russians between 1945 and 1951?

A: Nothing.

Q: Absolutely nothing?

A: No.

Q: Were they still interested in you? Did you still have contacts?

A: No. I mean I could have had a contact through Guy; but I was in no position to give them any information of interest; but there has been some reference to confidential papers which I might have seen at Buckingham Palace. This is, of course, nonsense.

Q: It has also been said that you carried on working, bringing up loose ends, at any rate?

A: That is totally untrue.

Q: How did you break off contact with the Russians?

A: What, at that point?

Q: At the end of the war?

A: Well, it just happened. They realized that I was no longer interesting.

Q: The name of Guy Burgess keeps coming up. He is often portrayed as a drunk, a homosexual, wild man and so on. He seems to have played an extraordinarily important part. How would you assess Burgess?

A: Well, Burgess when I first met him, as an undergraduate was rather the most remarkable, one of

the most brilliant, and let me make this distinction, one of the most intelligent people I have ever met. He was already extremely tiresome, and difficult and so on but he had a mind which went absolutely to the bottom of every question and he was interested in every question. I mean one could listen to him talking about politics or put a problem to him about general things, like art history, and he would invariably come up with something which would be relevant, original and stimulating. And I think it might be extremely wrong-headed, but I think this is extremely difficult; and everyone who knew him in his last years got to realize when he was very nearly round the bend, under the strain.

Q: Between 1945 and 1951 did you keep in contact with Burgess and Maclean as friends?

A: Not Maclean, whom I knew very much less; also I think he was abroad the whole time. I think the whole time.

Q: What kind of relationship did you have with Burgess during that time?

A: Oh, we met frequently, we belonged to the same clubs and we frequently used to meet and have long discussions about almost everything except politics.

Q: And he never asked you to do anything for him then?

A: No.

Q: How much contact were you in with former members of the intelligence service?

A: None, except I suppose I would occasionally have met one or two of them over a drink. No formal contact of any sort. And very little contact.

Q: Whom would you have met socially?

A: Guy Liddell. By that time I was also going to the Travellers Club and he was a member of that, so we used to go and meet there.

Q: I remember reading somewhere over the weekend that you used to meet with Sir Dick White, who is high up?

A: Well, I knew him; Dick White was my boss during the war, but no, I met him very rarely. I met him naturally in 1951 over the inquiry and so on, but I never knew him personally very well... and he was not much of a person for going to parties.

Q: Who was your immediate boss?

A: Dick White.

Q: Dick White was your immediate boss in MIS, during the war?

A: And Liddell was his boss. Some papers have got it wrong, that White was the senior.

Q: Did you warn Burgess and Maclean?

A: No, I did not and could not have. Philby warned them, as it has been publicly stated, and I could not have had any knowledge of this. It is inconceivable that I should have gone to Dick White or anyone like that and said, look, could you tell me this very highly secret information. It is absolute nonsense and I did not. It was simply Philby.

Q: During that period were you aware that Burgess and Maclean were still working for the Soviets?

A: Yes.

Q: How did it come about then, how did you come to know of Burgess's situation? Maclean's situation?

A: Simply through Guy, from Philby.

Q: What date was that?

A: When Guy came back from America, which was, I think, I might have been 10 days, before they left. He came back with the information from...

Q: And he told you that Philby had told him that they were coming in?

A: That they were coming in, yes. Did you not feel obliged to warn the security services?

A: No, because they were my friends.

Q: You said in your statement that you had contact on behalf of Guy in 1951 with the Russians.

A: Well that, when Guy came back he put me in direct contact and after that I went to the office to this contact; and it was at that point that I had orders to go to Russia and I refused.

Q: You use the term orders. In what sense orders? Because you had not worked for the Russians after the war?

A: Well, I had not formally broken. Q: You had not seen them for five to six years, so what did they assume you were in the intervening time?

A: I think they probably assumed that I was still with them.

Q: Why did Guy put you in direct contact with the Russians?

A: I suppose he thought rightly that I was not going to go, that I was obviously going to be a prime suspect and I suppose he thought that, if the thing got critical, they might simply take me over as they took him over, not reckoning on the fact...

Q: But were you able to help Guy or the agents in any way?

A: No, no way.

Q: I think if we may stop chasing the so-called facts and now go on to your state of mind. I think you say you had changed your mind about communism? When, in fact, did you change your mind, when did you think that the Soviet Union was not the answer?

A: This was a gradual process and I find it very difficult to analyse. It is, after all, more than 30 years ago. But it was the information that came out immediately after the war. During the war one was simply thinking of them as Allies etc, but then with the information about the camps.

Q: What about things such as Czechoslovakia? Did that help to change your mind?

A: In 1947?

Q: No 1948.

A: Oh, sorry; yes, it was episodes of that kind. I have thought about this a great deal and I cannot say exactly at what time, but it was accumulative evidence.

Q: So by the time that 1951 came along... you were clear?

A: I was clear.

Q: Were you actively hostile to the Soviets? Was there a definite point when you could say, I was sickened?

A: Certainly in 1951 I quite clearly remember thinking, No, in no circumstances.

Q: Now you had been given that royal post. Did it strike you at the time that because of your past there might be potential embarrassment to the Sovereign?

A: I suppose that at the time I assumed that it would never come out.

Q: So the question of embarrassment itself never entered your mind?

A: I am afraid I simply thought of

this as a job in my own field, important for me to do it. And I think I can do it. And I think I can do it. And I think I can do it.

Q: You have been given something of a going-over by the security service?

A: Yes, anyone who has turned over.

Q: Were you able to tell them anything at all, presumably about your old colleagues?

A: Yes, I'm sure they have been able, presumably what I did was to select... I am afraid I cannot answer that clearly.

Q: The statement said that you have been interrogated 11 times between 1951 and 1964. What was the nature of those interrogations? Were they full interrogations in the full meaning of that word or were they comfortable conversations across a drink?

A: First of all, the number 11 means nothing to me in this context. Secondly, they were all as far as I can remember certainly mainly immediately in 1951 and the immediate result of them [Burgess said] was that I was not given any more information. They were mainly comfortable conversations... it was perfectly plain to me. I was under suspicion, obviously.

Q: Were they by your old colleagues?

A: Yes, they were by people whom I had known in London, not closely.

Q: You, according to Andrew Boyle's book, at that point when Burgess went west in something of a state, I use that word loosely. You were worried, anxious and yet you managed to have got through these interviews, 11 or whatever the number. How did you do that?

A: I do not know. Either my account of my health was extremely inaccurate... I do not know. I suppose one develops a sort of resistance.

Q: Now your interrogators were people you knew. I think I suggest, your having worked in the same organization, that they did not think that you were guilty?

A: I think some did not and some did.

Q: Were you asked about the episode mentioned in the book: A note which was pushed through the United States Embassy door, and so on?

A: Totally meaningless to me.

Q: Did you go to Guy's flat after his departure at any point, to clean things up?

A: A little bit.

Q: Was this immediately after he went?

A: Immediately after, yes.

Q: When you were knighted by the Queen—I know that order is her gift and she does not have to take any advice from the Prime Minister—but this actually put you in a most exposed position, didn't it? Just taking care of her pictures: Did it then strike you that your past might eventually embarrass the Sovereign? After those interrogations?

A: No, I believed wrongly that the Queen was dead.

Q: And by this time your own sense of yourself, your political views and your relationship with the country had changed to the point where you could accept such an order?

A: Yes, it is a complete contradiction from the position you took in the 1930s.

Q: Yes, as I have said in my statement, I did not in fact have the option, but I was by then totally alienated from the Russians. I can see other objections, but from that point of view I could see no objection.

Q: Well, it would have been a horrible situation to be in, your attitude towards Russia, but I think what you said earlier to us was that in the 1930s you supported the principles of Marxism. That is not quite the same thing as supporting the principles of Russian state.

Q: What I am saying is, how much of a change did your political views take?

A: A complete change. In 1937, or whenever it was, I thought that Russia was following the true principles of Marxism. By 1951, however, I realized that this was totally false.

Q: But you can still be a Marxist and still not particularly like the Soviet Union?

A: Yes, I think I was even ceasing to be a Marxist then and I found the application of Marxism to my own subject extremely interesting and fruitful, and then gradually realized it was a gross oversimplification of the world.

Q: And you could not accept social realism then?

A: No.

Q: Did you become entirely reconciled with the British system?

A: Yes.

Q: There are so many people who come across from the Left to the Right and have become a Roman Catholic or extreme right-wing. Do you fit into that kind of experience?

A: No, I think that the British way of life and British constitutionalism, whatever it is, are the best.

Q: Why? Is it because you are better than the American way?

A: Let us not go into that; that is not relevant.

Q: Do you then still hold a certain amount of antagonism towards the Americans? This was always said of Burgess?

A: Ah, well no. When he came back from Washington in 1951 he was in a state of absolute manic hatred, fear. I don't know what you say about his conversation with 'The Americans' but I think he was in a war and I mean in five years, I was total hysteria.

Q: So the time came when you were approached and you made your confession. Did you decide to confess before you were offered immunity?

A: The two things happened absolutely simultaneously.

Q: You mean they offered you immunity when they came to discuss it?

A: Yes.

Q: Could you just describe in your own terms how the sequence of events came about? There were events around 1964?

A: I think this is something I can not go into in any detail, but they came to me with certain information which showed that they knew quite a lot and also freed me

from my loyalty. I think this something I cannot go into.

Q: I think you actually have already said on one of the television interviews that you were freed? Philby's defection. Is that the case?

Q: I think you also said in a second of those interviews that you were freed by the actions, or sayings or doings, of one of your friends?

A: I said that, yes. That would be true.

Q: By the actions or the sayings?

A: Sayings.

Q: I am attempting to read in what you are saying that it was something to do with Guy Burgess activities in Moscow.

A: No.

Q: Were you concerned to protect another friend of yours who had it so far been implicated?

A: I think I cannot go any further.

Q: Was the information that security services came to you from information from spies who had defected or from your own form?

A: Not from defectors.

Q: Which means it came from former colleagues?

A: Colleagues or friends, yes.

Q: Philby had made a general confession in 1951, of course. Can you imagine that Philby's general confession had implicated you to so extent or that had blown things in the air to some extent?

A: I think not.

Q: Can you suggest at the source of this information: would it be from Russia, from this country? You see, this is the key area for us, come to you after all these years and say we know and you are free to say it. It is natural to us to be interested.

A: Indeed, I think it is also natural for me that I... this is one of the things about which I can be specific.

Q: Now the information you were able to give to intelligence, your confession, did they regard as of some importance after those years?

A: Well, I think they did. The attitude to it was that although was out of date, it could start a line of research which could lead elsewhere.

Q: May I ask who it was who actually came to you?

A: It was a member of MIS.

Q: A member of MIS whom you know?

A: Whom I had known, but not all well.

Q: Did Skardon [an interrogator come and interrogate you?]

A: No.

Q: Was he there?

A: No, I am not sure.

Q: Did Skardon interrogate you in 1951?

A: No.

Q: It was Hollis who came to you?

A: No, I am sorry I cannot remember. I can remember his Christian name. I cannot remember surname. He was one of the people on whom I was very much opposed to the general.

Q: The question in most people's minds is, here you are a man who betrayed his country, he admitted you changed your mind afterwards but you had in fact committed that crime. It is strange to many people that it should be given immunity after confession. Was it because the information was all that important?

A: I think that was behind it. And I think they felt that I was offered immunity, obviously would cooperate. Whether they thought that I might still be touched and be used as a double agent, I do not know. If they were wrong.

Q: Did they try to use you as a double agent?

A: Well, no, because I had absolutely no means.

Q: Were you offered a choice of what was to happen? To confess a crime and immunity or...?

A: No, because it was simply a ph statement.

Q: What do you understand now the terms of that immunity? What did you understand by it then?

A: Well, I understood and understood that means immunity from prosecution.

Q: Not immunity from publicity?

A: Well, I do not think legally it is.

Q: But you assumed?

A: I assumed in fact that the terms of that immunity were that I was to be kept private in MIS.

Q: Was this offer made with authority of MIS?

A: I was strongly under impression, in fact I was told, it was made under higher authority.

Q: What the immunity?

A: Yes.

Q: What do you mean by high authority in this instance?

A: Well, I would not like to be specific, but my impression was certainly that it was the Prime Minister. I will not confirm it because apparently the Prime Ministers say they do not know what has been misinformed.

Q: Were there any negotiations or they came to you with the pack at once?

A: It just came like that. Obviously there must have been discussion before, but not with me.

Q: There were no negotiations?

A: No, No, it was perfectly clear.

Q: Was it put to you that this was an unprecedented move and it had done this in similar instances and might consider doing it in old instances?

A: No.

Q: It was simply offered to you a package?

A: Yes.

Q: They did not say to you that will give you immunity, because of your loyalty to certain people, we might be prepared to the same to them?

A: No, I was simply offered immunity.

Q: Did you understand at the time that the Palace had been informed?

A: Well, again this is something about which I am very confused. At the time I did not know either way, but later I was told that it was not until after it was later on that this was clearly my impression.

Q: So there was no question of the Private Secretary was told he decided on his initiative not to tell the Sovereign?

A: Well, not at that time.

Continued on page 5, to

Professor had 'little contact' with Queen

continued from page 4

Q: And since then?

A: Since then I was given to understand that at some stage the Private Secretary was told and whether he told the Queen or not, I do not know.

Q: Which date was that, which ear?

A: 1972. I was told this much later.

Q: Mrs Thatcher's statement emphasized that keeping you in our post in the Royal Household was necessary to ensure our cooperation?

A: Did she say that?

Q: Twice. It was in the statement.

A: Well, that was totally unknown to me.

Q: There were not any discussions?

A: No.

Q: Did it not occur to you that our position at the Royal Household might be a bit odd?

A: No, not at all.

Q: No one ever suggested that should resign.

A: Your duties in the Royal Household at that time, clearly, were not responsible for pictures and so on? What contact did you have with the Sovereign and people close to her?

A: Very little. My job was essentially concerned with the security and I was only in contact if there was some decision to be made about rehanging, redecoration or some matter of policy in connexion with the security.

Q: Were you upset by the exposure?

A: Well I meant I was upset when the... exposure came. I cannot say that I ever supposed that in security guaranteed that, quite frankly it has been said that I am furious with Mrs Thatcher for breaking her part of the bargain. I have never said any such thing and do not feel it.

Q: It would be nice to have a record.

A: Well, would you like to repeat what you have just said?

Q: You must have felt uneasy, your continuing position, is not a comfortable situation, be in knowing M15 have this confession from you and that you were in other people's and for the rest of your life.

A: Well, no, that was a comforting feeling.

Q: It has been said by one of our friends that since 1964 the couple who know you have felt that you were much more relaxed and much more at ease with the world. Did you feel as?

A: Yes, did I not show this?

Q: Well, that's what they're saying to me.

A: Yes, it was a tremendous relief to get this off my chest and to be able to get it off.

Q: Can we go back to Cambridge for a moment? This distinguished paper of mine reported some time ago that Mr Beves was the fourth man to be involved in this group?

A: That was the most terrible. How it arose I cannot conceive, but there was absolutely no possibility of it. There was no evidence to show it and the man who wrote the article did not produce any evidence.

Q: All, and from my knowledge, absolutely not.

Q: It did, in fact, come from a very good source.

A: Well, you see there have been theories about this that perhaps there were people in the security services who were unhappy about the course events had taken with you and were anxious to see it brought out into the open. I think that the events of the past few years have shown that there were people anxious to bring it out into the open, for whatever motives. Have you anything to contribute to the state of public knowledge?

A: No, nothing. I think it is perfectly possible. At one moment I thought it was probable, but when Boyle said that my name had been given to the security services, I felt that that was at any rate a sufficient explanation. A sufficient explanation, therefore, one did not have to suppose a leak from our M15 which frankly I had—I say a leak I mean a leak.

Q: Were there ever any further discussions with the security services, or with anybody, after 1964 about the prospect of the situation changing or about any contact you might have had with Russians or about any further information you could give?

A: About further information—I mean the—our conversations went on quite a long time.

Q: After 1964?

A: From 1964 till, say, 1965 and occasionally I think they came back with some specific query.

Q: Where was this done? Were you actually debriefed in the military sense, or what? Was this done at a series of meetings or?

A: It was usually done in my flat in a series of conversations. Q: Who were you interrogated or debriefed by?

A: Well, I do not think that is probably something; he is someone who is now retired, but I think that's not.

Q: Let us ask you a very general question. It might be slightly embarrassing, but if you look at people such as Burgess and Maclean, not Philby—I knew Philby before he went across in Beirut in 1958—but they were homosexuals.

A: Maclean was hardly.

Q: Other spies have been known to be homosexual; I mean is there anything in the condition of a homosexual that makes him liable for such work, is it because he feels, he has been rejected by society?

A: Well, I think not. I mean in this particular case Philby as you say firmly, quite certainly, was not; Maclean was only very essentially normal—no; I think that obviously in certain other cases blackmail has been used, but I think that has been grossly exaggerated. I think the connexion is much slighter than had been suggested and after all there are other means of blackmail.

Q: In that period, between 1951 and 1964, did the Russians in fact make any further approaches to you or did they assume you were now dead?

A: No.

Q: So you had no contact whatever with the Russians since 1951?

A: No.

Q: You never asked to try and resume contact with the Russians?

A: Never.

Q: Has any attempt been made to contact you by another Iron Curtain country on their behalf?

A: No, individually?

Q: Or, never.

A: Last week I asked a former intelligence man whom I have known over the years how it was that an agent could approach you and suggest to all of you to go back to the Soviet Union and I said well how would he do it, and he said "Well have you read Graham Greene's *The Human Factor*?" and I said "Yes" and he said, "Well, read the last few chapters." You have not read it?

A: I have not.

Q: Well, the last few chapters of the book—mainly a diplomat—is going to escape, goes to an address which he has been told about and he is taken from there. Was that what happened to you? Did you go to a certain address?

A: What was this occasion?

Q: Yes.

A: No, I went to a certain place.

Q: In this country?

A: Uh huh.

Q: In the countryside?

A: No, in London.

Q: Was this a prearranged place?

A: Yes.

Q: And at this meeting you told them you would not go back with them?

A: Yes.

Q: That is what I told... I said that you told them. Was it one person or several people?

A: One.

Q: Was the situation that you were told to meet a person of a certain description at a certain place in London, a man whose name you were not given?

A: No, it was someone I had been in contact with a long time before.

Q: What did he say when you refused to go back?

A: I am sorry I have put this wrong. I was given orders to go and I then went home and decided not to.

Q: I see so...

A: So I did not formally, yes. I did not say I would not go. Q: I see, and there was no contact after that? He did not try and get in touch with you?

A: No.

Q: Why did they want you to go?

A: Because I think they thought that I was, not unreasonably, that I was heavily under suspicion and in danger and that if arrested might spill the beans.

Q: You keep using the word orders—you use this all the way through; now in fact your role subsided in 1945, you were a talent-spotter at Cambridge, you were then during the war working for the Russians, although this is a military term: were you ever holding some sort of commission from the Russians?

A: No, it is simply in that kind of organization instructions are given fairly firmly.

Q: Did they say to you that if you failed to obey those orders there would be consequences?

A: No.

Q: They did not say that?

A: I think they assumed that I would.

Q: They did not say to you that they would shop you?

A: No.

Q: Of course they were right because eventually you were arrested in effect and you did spill the beans?

A: Yes.

Q: What were the beans that you spilled? Did you name a number of names? Obviously you went over the history of people who might still perhaps be alive?

A: Yes, and more particularly of Russians working.

Q: Were you able to give the names?

A: No, but I could identify them.

Q: You could identify Russians who were working in this country?

A: Yes.

Q: How were you able to identify them if you had no contact with them?

A: They were people I had had contact with at the early active stage, who were, very often, not still here.

Q: But in some cases they were?

A: I do not know the answer to that but I think probably not.

Q: I have forgotten the chronology but could this confession possibly have led to the then Prime Minister ordering all the Russians to leave the country?

A: No, no.

Q: What happened to them? What happened to those Russians you identified, some of whom were in Britain?

A: I think they were no longer in Britain. They were simply identified as being on this job.

Q: Did you identify any British citizens, any of your contemporaries or colleagues? Obviously this must have been an area of great interest to M15.

A: I cannot comment on that.

Q: It has been said over the weekend—there has been lots of speculation about the fact that there might be other people in the same position as yourself; one estimate put the number as several, say up to eight; another estimate has gone as high as 20 or 25. What do you feel about those estimates—that speculation?

A: This is sheer guessing. My guess would be that there must have been a great many more people involved in this. I should think all of them have long since stopped.

Q: Are you still affected by a wish to protect your friends of then and now in this matter? You have been very reserved about some...

A: Well, the problem... I should be, but the problem no longer arises.

Q: Do we take it then that the

friends whose loyalties you have difficulty reconciling with other loyalties are all now dead? Or gone.

Q: Of those then that you talent-spotted in Cambridge in the 1930s, are they all dead?

A: I cannot answer that. I am sorry.

Q: You say there must have been a great many people involved, were these people in public service of some kind?

A: I imagine so and this is largely... I am sorry, I think I must shut up on this because I am partly talking about official information that I have officially. But I think it is common knowledge that the network of one kind or another was considerable and so...

Q: Twenty you say?

A: No, I say 20 has been said—I should think that is probably an exaggeration.

Q: I think you said to television cameras that at Cambridge there was Burgess, Maclean, Philby and yourself, four, and you did not think there were any others?

A: No.

Q: You do not think there are any others at Cambridge?

A: Not at the time we talked about then.

Q: Because the other thing said over the weekend was that this was not something that was a problem at Cambridge alone but the same could have existed and did exist at Oxford, and at other universities in the 1930s.

A: Yes, well that is something I simply have no knowledge of.

Q: But on your experience would you believe this to be true? This was a very heady time of quite strong political passions.

A: Yes, I mean if one is simply asking me to make a guess—yes.

Q: What are your feelings now about the situation? You have been asked this morning how you feel about being publicly revealed as a traitor? How do you feel?

A: It is a difficult question to answer. Obviously I am deeply upset by it but that is not perhaps an adequate expression. I do feel, and this may seem a preposterous thing to say, I do feel I have acted according to my conscience and I now realize that my original action in the 1930s, which was according to my conscience and I believe throughout, was totally wrong.

Q: Did you have any reason to think that the situation changed in 1972 when, according to Mrs Thatcher, the then Attorney-General, Sir Peter Rawlinson, reviewed your case?

A: No, I think the only thing I know which does bear on this is that I was suddenly rushed to hospital for a very serious operation in which it was thought I very likely would not survive—a cancer operation—and I was told later, and this is my only information on the subject, that that was the moment when some information was passed on; whether to whom, whether to the private secretary, I do not know.

Q: 1972, we are talking about?

A: 1972 and the fact that this happened to coincide with Sir Michael Adeane's retirement as secretary is I think, totally irrelevant.

Q: And the same thing appears to have happened again, I think in 1974? That the file was brought out.

A: That I know nothing about.

Q: What was the highest level of official in M15 with whom you discussed the whole immunity concession question eventually?

A: Only the man I was talking to.

Q: You never had higher-level personal contact than that?

A: No, no.

Q: Several names have come up in the last few days as one would expect in a situation like this; one is a man called

Thomas Harris, who I believe was a close friend of yours?

A: A great friend of mine. This was one of the most outrageous things in Deacon's book. He made a categorical statement that he had been working for the Russians. He gave no tangible evidence at all. He simply quoted someone who must call X who had been working for the Russians in Switzerland on internal evidence. First of all I am absolutely certain it is not true—on internal evidence a lot of his story did not hold water, the dates and so on, and this is something which came up very much in 1951, he was a close friend and indeed later he was a close friend of Philby and a very close friend of Gurney.

Q: And there was another man you mentioned the name of, Guy Liddell at one stage. I believe he died some years ago.

A: He died some years ago. Again I should say absolutely certainly not. He was my boss in M15. The evidence that there is no evidence which has been shown against him. He was in trouble certainly owing to the fact that he was quite a friend, not nearly as close a friend as has been stated of Philby, and they worked together quite a lot and they did occasionally have a drink together.

Q: Just one final general question: I think perhaps you will agree that under the circumstances you were treated leniently—other people who did other things suffered worse fates. To what do you attribute the leniency with which you were obviously treated?

A: Well, I think that the hope to get as much information out of me as possible, and the belief that if I was treated leniently I should cooperate fully.

Q: Is that because you are a member of the alleged establishment?

A: I cannot say.

HOME NEWS

Reprieved land quango in Wales made £5.3m profit

by John Young
Planning Reporter

In a few days' time a new all-embracing Planning, Local Government and Land Bill will contain the Community Land Act, a largely unpublicized death-knell for one notable quango to arrive as an ironic challenge to the Conservative view that the Act was obstructive and irrelevant.

In the three and a half years since it was established to acquire and dispose of land for development, the Land authority for Wales has made a net profit of about £5,300,000, operating from the tenth floor of a rented office building in Cardiff, with two small local ranches in Wrexham and Carmarthen. It has a staff of fewer than 70, about one tenth of its originally forecast establishment.

Up to 31 March, the authority had acquired a total of 1,428 acres, compared with some 3,600 acres in the whole of England, where the task of implementing the Act was left to local councils. According to its chief executive, Mr Ted Howell, it is now in a position to begin repaying its initial borrowings, as well as financing all future purchases from its own resources.

Mr Howell attributes its success mainly to the fact that it is a small centralized body, run on commercial lines and with a single function. In contrast, the Act has failed in England because councils have lacked the time and resources and in many cases, the political will to implement it.

The present Government's view, he says, is that the question of excessive profits can best be dealt with by fiscal means. But that is a negative and deterrent approach, whereas what is wanted is a positive policy to encourage rapid acquisition and disposal.

At first, he recalls, the authority met with considerable suspicion from landowners and builders. "But now," he says, "hardly a day goes past without a call either from a builder in search of land, or an estate agent wanting to make a sale."

"I see the role of this authority as primarily that of a supplier of land. I think it is a valuable service and one that builders and developers will be happy to pay for."

Double oxygen in ship where fire killed eight

from Our Correspondent

A court was told yesterday that there was more than double the usual amount of oxygen in a section of a warship in which eight men were killed by a fire.

Mr Gordon Harding, senior technical inspector of factories, told York Crown Court that the oxygen-enriched atmosphere had been ignited when a workman struck up his arc welding equipment.

Eleven men were working in the bottom deck machinery room of the 3,600-ton missile destroyer HMS Glasgow at Swan Hunter's Neptune yard at Wallsend when the fire broke out in September 1976. Swan Hunter has denied six charges brought under the Health and Safety at Work Act. Telemeter Installation, its subcontractor, has admitted three similar offences. The trial continues today.

Agency appeal move fails

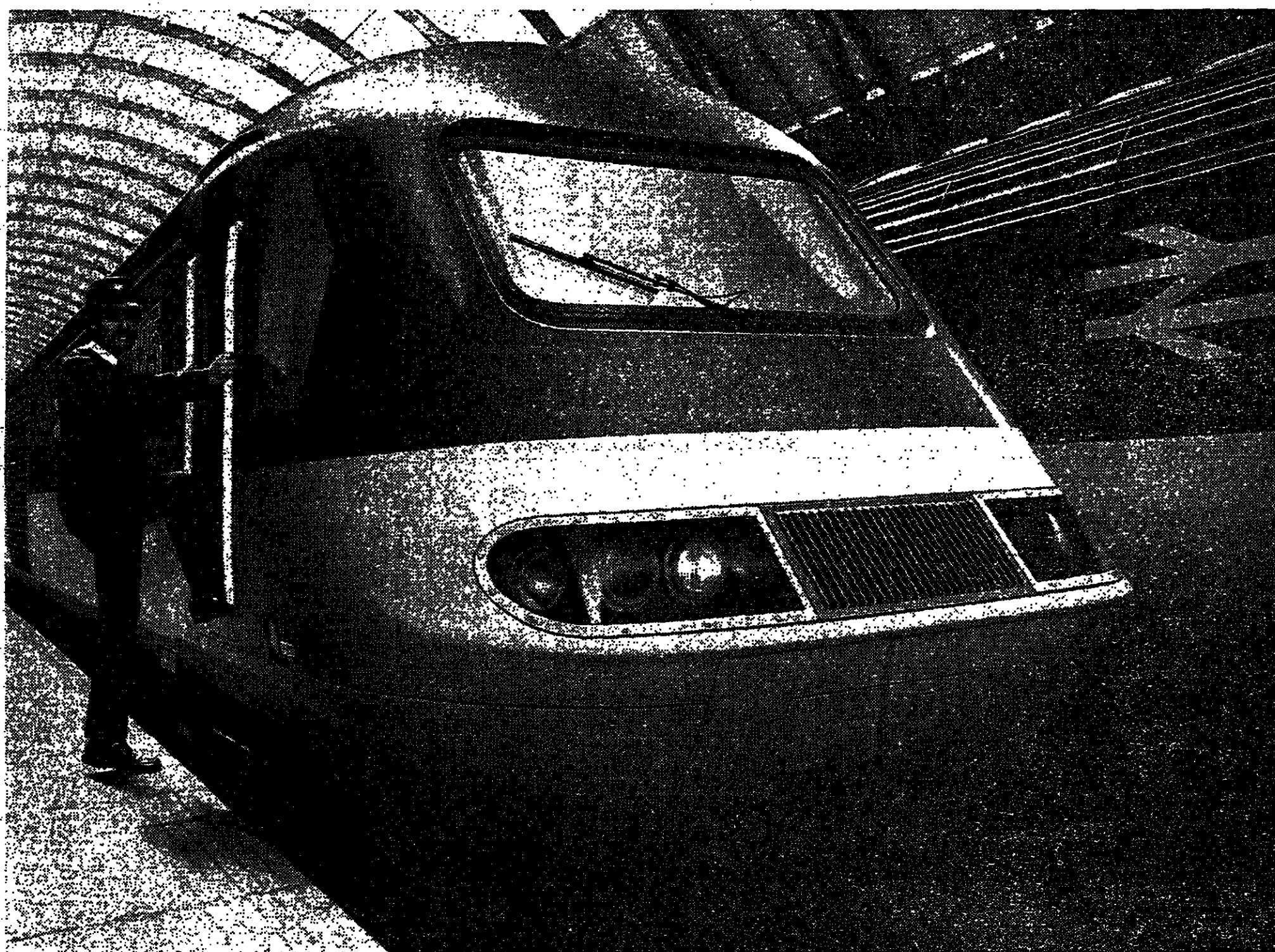
A London travel agency and its chief were refused leave to appeal by the Court of Appeal yesterday, against their convictions under the Trade Descriptions Act.

Westminster Touring Association Ltd. of Parliament Street, Westminster, and Percy George Soutby, aged 75, of Castistock, Dorset, were fined £2,000 and £500 respectively at Knightsbridge Crown Court last March for recklessly making false statements about the provision of accommodation for Holy Year pilgrims in Rome.

Half holiday

To mark the return of *The Times* to the pupils at Stonyhurst, a private school in Leicestershire, are to have a half-holiday on Saturday.

The Rev Joe Joseph, the headmaster, said its reappearance was the most exciting event since the Spanish Armada.



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OVERSEAS

Iran determined to try hostages unless Shah is handed back

Tehran, Nov. 20.—Ayatollah Khomeini declared today that the remaining 49 American hostages in the occupied United States Embassy here will be released as spies unless President Carter returns the Shah to Iran.

In a statement broadcast by Tehran radio, he said the hostages will remain in the next few days and after that Carter will understand what a mistake he has made.

Hundreds of thousands of Iranians are preparing to march tomorrow to mark the start of the fifteenth century in the Islamic calendar. The marches are expected to be the biggest in American demonstrations since the beginning of the occupation of the embassy on October 4.

Ayatollah Khomeini's statement today appeared to be a higher than the previous one that the hostages "should be tried and punished."

A few hours before it was issued the militants released 10 more Americans, who were taken to Europe. Before they left Tehran, one of them said remaining hostages were in greater danger than before.

Miss Joan Walsh, who asked to explain the danger, said: "The six black men and four women were flown to Frankfurt, West Germany, for a flight to driven to a United States Force hospital in Wiesbaden for medical examinations and questioning by United States officials. They had an emotional reaction, and one of the black men and another American hostage who were freed Monday and are also being cared at the air force hospital. All 13 were freed on orders from Ayatollah Khomeini, who said the militants to release any blacks or women among the hostages who 'were not spies'."

He said blacks were oppressed in the United States and that "the United States is a country where the blacks are put on display by the press at a press conference at the embassy last night."

Tehran students release messages to embassy

Secret papers show Washington failed to heed warnings

From Robert Fisk, Tehran, Nov. 20

In years to come, historians may question America's response to the turmoil in Iran over the past 12 dramatic months as earnestly as they now examine the United States' role in Vietnam or Cambodia.

Did the American Government realise the depth of opposition to the Shah within his armed forces? Should the Americans have further supported the Islamic government of Mr. Mehdi Bazargan? Did Mr. Cyrus Vance, the Secretary of State, fail to comprehend the potential Iranian reaction to the Shah's arrival in the United States?

A tiny, incomplete but none the less fascinating insight into these questions has been provided by a set of photocopied documents which Iranian students occupying the American Embassy in Tehran have been making public here. The papers—all of which are genuine—do not disclose any evidence of spying by embassy staff. Yet they provide valuable evidence about American foreign policy towards Iran over the past year.

It is clear from a telegram which the embassy in Tehran received from Washington on July 26 this year that the Shah's future had been a regular subject of discussion in the State Department. The telegram was signed by Mr. Peter Tarnoff, Mr. Vance's special assistant. He told the embassy that the State Department was "again considering how to respond to the Shah's continuing presence."

Regarding establishing residence for himself, the Shah, his family in the United States, I would like to have your personal and private evaluation of the effect of such a move on the safety of Americans in Iran (especially the official Americans in the compound) as well as on our relations with the Government of Iran.

The telegram, which is dated "secret 1979/22", went to ask the embassy official—presumably Mr. Bruce Laingen, the Chargé d'Affaires—if his response to the issue would be different if the Shah renounced the Iranian throne or agreed "to forewear political activity of any sort."

Mr. Vance felt that "the key to minimizing the impact of the Shah's admission would be in the willingness and ability in such a situation to control and command the security forces guarding our people."

The students did not find Mr. Laingen's reply, but his attitude is fairly clear from a memorandum and letter which was sent to Tehran on August 2. It was written by Mr. Henry Precht, director of the Office of Iranian Affairs at the State Department, and was classified "secret/sensitive."

The paper noted that if the Shah refused to renounce his claim to the throne after the approval of Iran's new Islamic constitution, "we should make it clear privately to the Shah and his friends that we would not tolerate any counter-revolutionary acts here which might violate United States law."

While believing that "the threat to United States embassy personnel is less now than it was in the spring," Mr. Precht felt that "we should make the move towards admitting the Shah until we have obtained and tested a new and substantially more effective guard force for the embassy."

This note, which the students wrongly believe to have been written by Mr. Laingen, was sent to the Tehran chargé by Mr. Precht with a covering letter which noted that "with a few details of difference, we are in accord."

Mr. Precht's letter also went on to say: "My paper was prepared... with strict instructions not to cut anyone else in except those shown as clearing and Peter (Tarnoff) So please protect me absolutely." In other words, the Precht memorandum should never have been sent to the American Embassy in Tehran.

Throughout this period, it is apparent that the Americans were still hoping to maintain contact with the military authorities in Iran. On June 15, a memorandum classified "secret" and coded "P 152135Z" was sent to the embassy by the American Department of Defense.

It stated that classified military information about military material and munitions, military intelligence and other matters was not to be communicated to the Iranian authorities. Such information already given to the Iranian Government had probably been "subjected to compromise."

A separate document suggests that the American Government, which overestimated the loyalty of the Shah's army, received accurate information on at least one arm of the Shah's military forces.

A note from Washington signed by Mr. J. O. Tuttle, Assistant Vice-Director for Plans and Policy for the United States Navy, refers to the work of the American naval attaché in Tehran before the revolution. The attaché, Captain Roy Hollingsworth, had during the last months of the Shah's rule "accurately reported the significant changes transpiring in the Iranian Navy, its observed and critically reported upon the tensions and fissures which were building up in the Iranian Navy."

Historians may one day conclude that the Americans did not pay enough attention to Captain Hollingsworth's all too accurate report. They may also feel that Mr. Laingen and Mr. Precht correctly warned the State Department of the possible repercussions of the Shah's entry to the United States—advice which does not appear to have been heeded by Mr. Vance.

Israel food prices soar as budget takes effect

From Christopher Walker, Jerusalem, Nov. 20

Prices of many basic foodstuffs throughout Israel rose by up to 115 per cent this morning as the result of a sudden cutback in government subsidies.

The move was the key section of a harsh new economic package designed to halt runaway inflation which at an annual rate of over 100 per cent now ranks among the highest in the world.

There was angry reaction in the supermarkets and on the streets as the price rises were imposed. Cheese went up by 115 per cent, milk by 112 per cent, butter by 100 per cent, cooking oil by 80 per cent, and a standard loaf of bread was increased by 43 per cent.

To add to the atmosphere of despondency, Israel radio later confirmed the speculation that the prices of most public services would soon be sharply increased.

In addition to the withdrawal of food subsidies, the government's hard hitting package included a credit squeeze, a freeze on all public building including hospitals, a 10 per cent levy on all imported goods, and a reduction of 17,500 public service jobs.

Although it had been generally accepted for some weeks that severe measures were vital to the survival of Mr. Begin's floundering coalition, the severity of the package surprised political observers.

Within hours of the price rises taking effect, streets in some of the poorer areas of Jerusalem were sealed off by members of the extreme left-wing Black Panthers Group, who set fire to tyres.

Moshe Brilliant writes from Tel Aviv: A few days ago, no confidence in Mr. Begin's government for its decision to expel the troublesome Mayor of Nablus was easily defeated in the Knesset in Jerusalem today.

The fate of the Mayor, Mr. Bassam Shaka, will be determined on Thursday when the Israel Supreme Court hears his appeal against the government's decision.



Mr. Yasser Arafat, the PLO leader, in buoyant mood at the opening of the Arab League summit in Tunis.

Use of 'oil weapon' urged at Arab League summit

Tunis, Nov. 20.—An Arab League summit conference opened here today with a call from Iraq for concerted economic action, including use of the "oil weapon", against countries which support Israel.

President Saddam Husain of Iraq also signalled support for the continued presence of Palestinian guerrillas in southern Lebanon.

Those who support Zionist aggression must understand that their interests are not safe in our region so long as they continue that support," the Iraqi President told the assembled Arab leaders.

He said the Arab states possessed weapons—"among which I mention oil"—and suggested that the time had come for a special summit on the economic strategy of the Arab states. However, Iraq's earlier calls for an Arab economic summit have been blocked by opposition from other League members, including Saudi Arabia.

Fifteen of the League's members were represented by their highest-ranking leaders at the opening of the summit conference.

After speeches by President Husain, who spoke in his role as conference chairman, by rotation, and President Bouguiba of Tunisia, the conference adjourned. Further meetings will be held behind closed doors.

The Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) is full member of the Arab League. Mr. Yasser Arafat, its chairman, was among the leaders at today's opening session in the main hall of the Tunis International Conference Centre.

This week's summit is the first since President Sadat signed Egypt's peace treaty with Israel last March, prompting the League to move its headquarters from Cairo to Tunis.

US seeks Security Council help

From Patrick Bragan, Washington, Nov. 20

The 13 hostages freed from Tehran will be kept in Wiesbaden, West Germany, for a few more days, in a period the State Department has described as "decompression". They may be home for Thanksgiving, on Thursday, when the press would be able to interview them.

The period of recuperation, though described as a measure intended for their own good, clearly mainly meant to help the remaining hostages. When the last 10 to be released were graded before the mob and the television cameras in Tehran on Monday, they gave a sufficiently harrowing description of the conditions of their detention to inflame yet further public opinion here.

When they are entirely free to express themselves, their descriptions will presumably be all the more graphic and inflammatory. The White House has attempted to persuade television networks to play down coverage of American reactions to the events in Tehran, for fear that film of a riot here in which Americans are mistreated would be shown in Iran and endanger the hostages.

United States representatives in New York are discussing with other members of the United Nations Security Council the possibility that that body might issue a denunciation of the proposal to put the hostages on trial for espionage. Like diplomats from every country, including Iran, members of the Security Council believe devoutly in diplomatic immunity.

Considerations of their countries' relations with Iran might cause some of them to hesitate to express their beliefs too strongly, and the Americans are trying to phrase a resolution to meet their diplomatic concerns while making the main point, that there should be no trial and that the hostages should be released, sufficiently firmly. The Security Council unanimously called on Iran to release the hostages 10 days ago and has rejected a request by Iran for a debate on United States policies, also unanimously.

The White House issued a statement yesterday calling the

proposed trial "a further flagrant violation of human rights, religious precepts and international law."

Meanwhile, the Treasury Department, which has been guarding Iranian assets frozen in United States banks by President Carter a week ago, has discovered that those assets amount to about \$8,000m (\$4,000m) not \$5,000m as originally estimated. About half the total is held in foreign branches of United States banks.

The three deportation orders against Iranian students have been issued. Only a few dozen people are involved so far, but more will follow.

The Immigration Service, which handles such matters, is faced with the difficulty of distinguishing between Iranians who support the Ayatollah and those, supporters of the former Shah, who might be classified as political refugees.

There are also legal problems in singling out one category of illegal immigrants (those whose visas have expired, or who have worked here, which is illegal) and not others. The constitution prohibits such discrimination.

Assyrians stage hunger strike in Athens

From Our Own Correspondent, Athens, Nov. 20

A group of 200 Christian Assyrians, including many women and children, went on hunger strike in Athens yesterday demanding prompt permission to emigrate to the United States. They staged a sit-in at the Athens office of the Inter-Governmental Committee for European Migration.

The Assyrians submitted a memorandum outlining their conditions, and M. Jacques Tarrin, the Athens delegate of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, agreed to deliver it to the United States Embassy.

Thousands of Assyrians have fled Iraq since 1976. They claim to be political refugees, but in most cases they are unable to prove that they are victims of persecution. Nearly 1,600 Assyrian refugees left Greece this year to settle in various western countries.

Moscow holdup

Moscow, Nov. 20.—A raider shot dead a woman cashier and wounded a policeman during a holdup at one of Moscow's main jewellery shops, the newspaper Sovetskaya Rossiya reported. The injured policeman was being treated in hospital with the help of bystanders.

Rail crash kills four

Johannesburg, Nov. 20.—Four passengers were killed and 19 injured when a train carrying black migrant mineworkers from Mozambique to South Africa was derailed near the border town of Komatipoort.

Python crushes boy

Johannesburg, Nov. 20.—A 13ft python crushed to death and partly swallowed a shepherd boy of 13 in the northern Transvaal region of South Africa.

'Pirate' radio calls Sikhs to prayer in Punjab

From Richard Wigg, Delhi, Nov. 20

A "pirate" radio is these days calling the Sikh faithful to prayer in Punjab. It is contravening at least two musty old Acts dating from the British Raj. But by sitting the transmitter inside the Sikhs' holiest of holy temples at Amritsar the "Pirates" defy and embarrass not merely the central Government in Delhi but the moderate Sikh-ruled Punjab state Government as well.

For "Radio Golden Temple, Amritsar", by broadcasting the "Kirtan" service daily on a "tape recording", is clearly a further step in a stubborn campaign for some kind of autonomous "Sikh homeland" in Punjab, after all, not far from Islamic Pakistan or the Ayatollah Khomeini's Iran and caste Sikh village leaders still sometimes use the religious bonds when defending their group's economic interests against untouchable farm labourers.

The Delhi Government has gingerly ordered an inquiry into the broadcasts by local communications officials, without knowing however how they can penetrate such a place of worship with the threat of prosecution.

More fundamentally, because of the Sikhs' block of votes in a state where the rich farmers' lobby has great influence over India's agricultural policies, neither Mr Charan Singh's Lok Dal party nor Mr Jagjivan Ram's Janata want to do anything to complicate things for their own supporters inside the Sikh leadership.

Political negotiations on a formula worked out by leading Sikh priests are now at a delicate stage. Their intention is to unify as far as possible Sikh Hindus in Delhi by electoral "understandings" with both national parties. That is exactly what the religious-minded pirates of Radio Golden Temple want to unsettle.

The desire to install a powerful transmitter so that the

many Sikhs who live and work abroad might hear the Golden Temple prayers service direct has long been nursed by India's Sikhs.

They number only just over 10 million in India, but they are a rich and go-ahead community based largely in the Punjab which, thanks to the "green revolution" they have made into India's most prosperous state.

Installing the private transmitter at present heard only locally was quickly financed by the prosperous faithful and, apparently with the complicity of the Sikh religious authorities.

The Punjab state Government chose to look the other way when the transmitter was ceremoniously carried into the Golden Temple in full view of a congregation early this month.

Radio Golden Temple is part of a sideshow in India's immensely varied political subculture which has been progressing for months as central Government authority declined after the ruling coalition Janata Party broke up.

Mr Prakash Singh Badal, the Punjab's Chief Minister, who enjoyed Janata Party support in the North Indian state, has had to wage a subtle political-cum-religious battle with opponents who have tried to bring him down with fundamentalist theocratic arguments based on Sikhism.

While Mr Badal has taken his stand on India's secular constitution, they have been denouncing him in the name of religious-sanctioned "panthism". A major crisis almost stopped Punjab's life in September when the Chief Minister was summoned to present himself before the Akal Takht, the Sikhs' supreme religious council.

Learned religious debates took place of place on whether the politician was obliged to attend as a "good Sikh". If he defied the order, issued by the three highest priests, he risked an alienation from the Sikh rank and file, which could have been fatal to his career, particularly in rural Punjab.

OUR NEW SAVINGS BANK FOR ENERGY AND RAW MATERIALS.

Every day more and more people are helping the British Glass Container Industry to save energy and raw materials. How?

By responding to a simple, but innovative, appeal by the industry to recycle bottles and jars.

It's called the Bottle Bank scheme. In only two years the industry has collected over 21 million used glass containers. Crushed them. Mixed them with other raw materials and re-melted them to make new glass containers. Making a considerable saving in raw materials and, more important, energy.

EVERYONE BENEFITS

The scheme directly benefits local authorities and their communities.

There is less waste to dispose of, giving a saving in costs and refuse tipping space.

And since the glassworks pay a guaranteed price for every tonne of glass returned to them, what used to cost local authorities money can now make them a profit. Which can be used to help buy kidney machines for the local hospital, or spent on other community projects.

In two years public response to "Save at the Bottle Bank" has developed into the regular habit of saving glass for thousands of people. In fact response has been so great that the glass industry, in co-operation with local authorities, is now expanding the scheme to 200 towns and cities.

Setting a target to recycle 150,000 tonnes of glass a year.

This will reduce the demand for virgin raw materials which, although plentiful in Britain, entails considerable quarrying activities.

But, more important, the use of recycled glass—or cullet as it is called—also reduces the fuel consumption of the glass-making furnaces.

So Britain saves 4,000,000 gallons of oil each year

INVESTING IN THE FUTURE

The Bottle Bank scheme is one of the ways in which the glass industry is looking to the future. Important, but only a part of a major programme of investment.

For example: continuous research into glass melting technology has reduced average fuel consumption by 18% since 1970.

Lightweight bottles such as the daily "pinta," continue to be developed, using 25% less glass, but retaining all the strength of their predecessors. Helping to reduce material and energy requirements accordingly.

NEW ECONOMIC USES FOR CULLET

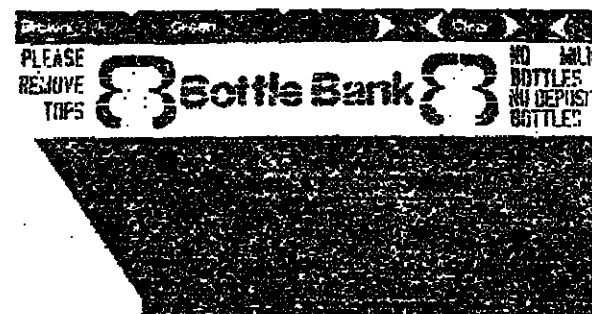
There will always be some parts of Britain which are too far away from the glassworks for recycling to be economical. So the industry has sponsored research into new uses for waste glass. As a result floor tiles and surfacing and cladding materials, containing 75% crushed glass, have been developed. Providing yet another outlet for people's empties. Proving that just because glass is inexpensive, that's no reason to waste it.

RECYCLABLE OR RETURNABLE

All glass can be recycled time and time again, without any quality loss.

But this is not to forget the returnable bottle which frequently offers great economy and efficient use of resources. Over 50% of packaged beer and soft drinks are sold in refillable deposit bottles. The daily doorstep delivery of milk owes its continued existence to the returnable glass bottle.

But by recycling the non-returnables, the glass container industry is saving raw materials, more, and energy.



BANK ON GLASS FOR THE FUTURE.

Glass Manufacturers Federation, 19 Portland Place, London W1N 4BH.

OVERSEAS

Thailand threatens to hit back at both Khmer and Vietnamese forces if they violate its border

From Peter Hazelhurst
Bangkok, Nov 20

If the fighting in Kampuchea spills over the border into Thailand then the Thai Army will hit back at both Khmer guerrillas and Vietnamese troops, Mr Upadit Pacharinyangkul, the Thai Foreign Minister told *The Times* today.

Describing the conflict in Kampuchea as tense and dangerous, Mr Upadit said that Thai authorities were worried that Vietnamese forces might cross the border in hot pursuit when they launch a dry season offensive against supporters of the ousted radical Marxist Pol Pot regime, in the coming weeks.

The border is very long and if the fighting intensifies, then there is the danger it will spill over into our territory. The military believe that Vietnam is planning to launch an all-out offensive. We do not know. But we have made it very clear that whoever encroaches on our territory will be disarmed. And if they do not allow themselves to be disarmed then we will take counter-measures. That is our determined policy and that is why we hope armed troops will not cross the border into Thailand in hot pursuit. We will not tolerate it if it happens.

Intelligence reports indicate that the offensive against Khmer guerrilla camps near the border is expected to begin when Vietnam moves five of its crack divisions from the centre of Kampuchea to the western frontier.

If Vietnam does reinforce three South Vietnamese divisions on the western frontier then Thailand might have no alternative but to increase the strength of its troops, 15,000 of whom are already defending the border, Mr Upadit disclosed.

We have deployed our soldiers with the objective of defending the territorial integrity of Thailand. As long as there is a confrontation between the two forces near the border, there is the possibility that the fighting will spill over into Thailand.

He denied allegations by Vietnam that Thailand was providing Khmer Rouge forces with safe bases along the frontier. The Vietnamese also allege that Thailand and Western relief agencies are providing Pol Pot supporters with food and medicine.

"Thailand's policy is one of strict neutrality", the minister said. "We do not want to get involved in the conflict in Cambodia. We want to see an early restoration of peace otherwise the scope of the fighting might intensify."

Denying allegations that Thailand was assisting the Khmer Rouge Mr Upadit said that it was difficult to identify soldiers mingling with the tens of thousands of refugees who had crossed the border in recent weeks.

"How can you tell whether the refugees are soldiers or not. We have to give every one food and medicine. At the same time this war is not of Thailand's

making and yet we have to shoulder a tremendous burden. It is unfair and yet we have taken it on because of humanitarian reasons. At the moment we are taking steps to make sure that the Khmers do not use Thailand as a base. That is why we are moving the refugee camps right away from the border."

As the only non-communist front-line state embroiled in the fighting between the feuding Marxists in Indo-China, Thailand has been greatly fortified by the United Nations' overwhelming support for the resolution calling for the withdrawal of all foreign troops from Kampuchea.

"As one of the co-sponsors of this resolution, Mr Upadit said, "We regard it as a smashing victory for the cause of peace, justice and right. The fact that it contains a vote for communist intervention is tremendous. It will place diplomatic, political and moral pressure on a country that has done something wrong. They cannot ignore the opinion of the world."

But he expressed concern that moves were being made in the West to support the recognition of the Vietnamese-installed regime in Phnom Penh.

"We do not necessarily support the actions of Pol Pot. But one has to approach this from an aspect of legality. We have recognised the Government of Democratic Cambodia (ousted during the Vietnamese invasion in January) because we are convinced it is the sole legal Government. It was toppled during an invasion committed by outsiders. And in the view of the majority of nations this is a blatant violation of international law."

It is not that we love Mr Pol Pot. It is the principle that this kind of illegal action, if we do not stand by this principle then the same thing could happen to any other country. It could be Thailand next."

However, he admits that the upheaval in Indo-China has demoralised local Thai insurgents. The Voice of the People of Thailand, the Thai communist radio station in southern China has ceased broadcasting since Peking has supported Thailand in its stance against the Vietnamese invasion. At the same time the pro-Chinese Communist Party of Thailand has lost its bases in Laos and Vietnam.

"But if anything has demoralised the communist and their potential supporters then it is probably the events that have taken place in Cambodia", Mr Upadit concluded.

Neil Kelly writes from Aranyaprathet, Thailand: Thailand is ready for a possible outbreak of fighting in the next day or two when its Army begins moving up to 300,000 Kampuchean into what seems destined to become the biggest refugee camp in the world, 17 miles north of here.

Senior army officers said today that there was danger that some Kampuchean they

would like to remove from the tense border to the new camp eight miles from it would offer armed resistance. No Kampuchean, they said, would be forced out of their own territory but efforts would be made to persuade as many as possible to leave for their own safety.

Some of these anti-communist Kampuchean fighting the Vietnamese from border areas will not readily give up the battle.

The Thai officers said that consequently these soldiers, most of whom had fought in the right-wing army defeated by the communists in 1975, were likely to remain inside Kampuchea but they would be urged to move further from the border.

Further south, two more new camps are being prepared for the expected influx of Kampuchean. The larger one will occupy much of the narrow strip of Thai territory wedged between Kampuchea and the sea.

Increased numbers of Pol Pot guerrillas and their supporters are now close to the border in the south, according to a Marine corps officer.

Vietnamese soldiers had made three known incursions into Thailand in the past eight days, killing three Thai marines, the same officer said. "The men who came on to our territory were Vietnamese army uniform including the distinctive helmet. Heng Samrin soldiers (those supporting the Phnom Penh Government) wear very different hats which are black and wide-brimmed."

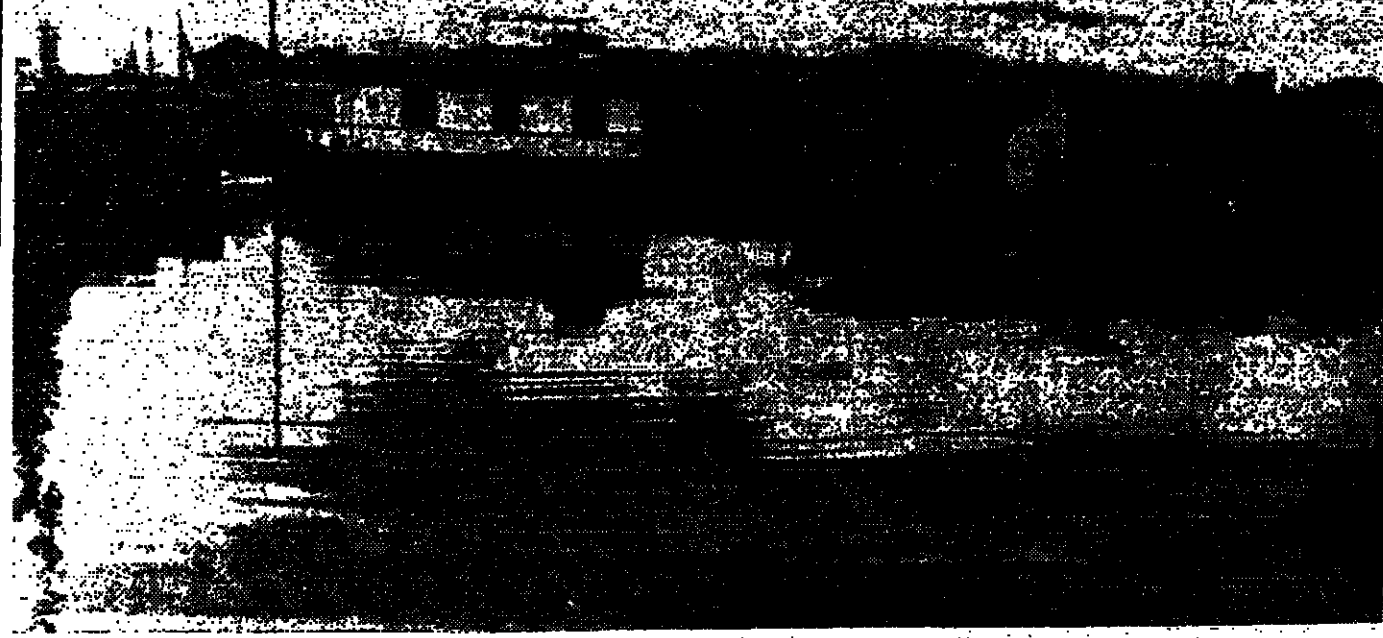
Red Cross Appeal: The British Red Cross Society is urgently appealing for doctors and nurses willing to work on three months contract in the holding camps for Kampuchean refugees in Thailand.

The International Committee of the Red Cross, which is responsible for coordinating medical aid for all refugees in Thailand, is already operating in the two existing camps and is now installing two field hospitals. Each with 2,500 beds, and an intensive feeding unit in the new camps.

Mr Terry Palmer, director of the International Aid, said today: "The British Red Cross is looking for eight teams, 50 people in all, two teams to go immediately and six to leave in December."

Doctors and nurses prepared to go to Thailand should contact the International Aid Department, British Red Cross Society, 9 Grosvenor Crescent, London, SW1. Applicants must have a minimum of three years' post-qualification experience. Broad training, experience in tropical medicine, gynaecology, mid-wifery, paediatrics and nutrition are desirable.

Bangkok, Nov 20.—A second Western ship carrying relief supplies to Phnom Penh is believed to have arrived there. The French ship *Ille de Lumiere*, carrying about 1,000 tonnes of supplies, was spotted close to Phnom Penh yesterday by an Australian aircraft ferrying aid from Bangkok.—Reuters.



Greek floods: A village street in Northern Greece stands under water after two days of torrential rains and gale-force winds. Fifteen people were drowned and livestock lost as the flood waters inundated thousands of homes. A state of emergency has been declared in all provinces of Northern Greece. Communications are

disrupted by the collapse of bridges, and Army units are helping to evacuate people from villages threatened by fresh floods.

Flood waters surging south from Yugoslavia could aggravate the situation. In Southern and South-western Yugoslavia the floods have so far claimed 14 lives. Thousands of homes have been inundated. As rain continued to fall yesterday the rail links between Yugoslavia and Greece were in part swept away. Most seriously hit is the Ulicina area of Montenegro province. The Bojana river has burst its banks, adding to the plight of the inhabitants left homeless by the spring earthquakes.

No progress in reserving Delhi jobs

From Our Own Correspondent
Delhi, Nov 20

The proposal to reserve 25 per cent of central government posts for India's "backward classes" was still at the consideration stage, said Mr Yashwantrao Chavan, the Home Minister.

It was one of several signs of reluctance for the scheme which is being pushed by Mr Charan Singh, the caretaker Prime Minister, in a bid to attract votes from members of the middle-ranking Hindu castes at the January general election.

Mr Chavan, like many of the leaders of the Congress Party opposed to Mrs Gandhi, belongs to one of the higher castes who figure largely in all central government jobs.

A decision to implement Mr Charan Singh's scheme would represent another strain on the fragile coalition between the Congress and Mr Charan Singh's own Lok Dal Party.

Mr Charan Singh's party is now considering whether the hoped for electoral advantage could be achieved by including a pledge on the jobs in the party's election programme.

Janata draws its support from the higher castes plus the Untouchables, who already enjoy the kind of government job reservation Mr Charan Singh wants for other caste groups.

Murdoch takeover bid for father's press group

From Douglas Aron
Melbourne, Nov 20

Mr Rupert Murdoch, proprietor of the *News of the World*, the *Sun* and various American publications, plans to take over the *Adelaide Advertiser* and *the Herald and Weekly Times* in Australia.

His Australian company, News Limited, announced today that it intended to spend about \$A126m (\$33m) for half of the issued capital in the *Herald* company.

If the bid succeeds, Mr Murdoch will be by far the most powerful newspaper magnate in Australia with newspapers in all states and opposed only by *The Sydney Morning Herald* in Sydney and *The Age* in Melbourne which are both controlled by the Fairfax family.

It has been Mr Murdoch's long dream to control the Melbourne *Herald* group. His father, Sir Keith Murdoch, was the chairman of the Melbourne *Herald* but after his death the family was eased out of control and the young Mr Murdoch found himself with control of only two Adelaide newspapers.

From there he built up his present international empire. Although his thoughts about the Melbourne *Herald* group have been vaguely known, today's move comes as a surprise.

The "quality" newspaper Mr Murdoch owns in Australia is the *broadsheet The Australian*, which he started in 1964. That paper has never made money, but as the country's first national daily paper it has managed to retain considerable respect, even though it has fluctuated politically according to Mr Murdoch's personal whims.

It is not yet known how the takeover will fare on the stock exchange. Mr Keith McPherson, chairman of the *Herald* group, said today: "The directors of the company will be meeting, shortly to discuss the intended offer."

Mr Murdoch faces potential difficulties with the Australian Broadcasting Tribunal, publishing and broadcast and with the Australian Journalists Association, both of whom are concerned with limited monopolies within the newspaper and television industry.

After news of the bid of a share, *Herald* shares rose to \$A3.75. On that value the *Herald* and *Weekly Times* is worth just under \$A250m. Mr Murdoch's company, News Limited, valued at just under \$A12m, would need to raise \$A126m for the bid. He has the necessary cash \$A126m for the bid. He has the necessary cash \$A126m for the bid.

Reshuffle in Uganda gives President more power

From Charles Harrison
Nairobi, Nov 20

President Binaise of Uganda has made a reshuffle of his Cabinet, creating several new ministries and strengthening his own powers by assuming the portfolio of defence.

Mr Yoweri Museveni, the former Minister of Defence, has been made Minister of Regional Cooperation, with responsibility for Uganda's relations with neighbouring African countries. This move is seen as reducing his power to influence events in Uganda.

Mr Otema Alimadi, has retained the key post of Foreign Minister. Mr Paulo Muvumba kept the Internal Affairs Ministry, and Mr Jack Sentongo the Finance Ministry.

Mr Ateker Ejika, the former Minister of Regional Cooperation, is named as Minister of Trade, and Mr David Barlow, the former police commissioner, is appointed Ambassador to France. Both these political

appointments have caused surprise as they were expected to go to people with previous diplomatic experience.

Ministers contacted in Kampala today said they knew nothing of the changes until they were announced late last night on Radio Uganda. One minister who had been asked to resign, Mr Yoweri Museveni, said: "Am I still in?"

The changes were apparently not notified to the National Consultative Council, Uganda's interim parliament, although the Council's approval for Cabinet changes.

Mr Lule subsequently claimed that his removal was engineered by President Nyerere of Tanzania because he opposed Tanzania's continued control on Ugandan affairs.

There are still 20,000 Tanzanian troops in Uganda, far outnumbering the small embryonic Ugandan Army.

More coup detainees freed by Indonesia

From Sinan Fisek
Ankara, Nov 20

Indonesia today released nearly 1,900 people who have been held on the remote island of Buru since an abortive Communist coup in 1965. In a ceremony outside a Jakarta youth centre, husbands and fathers who had not been seen for 10 years and more were embraced by their families.

They were the last of 11,000 people held in the Buru penal colony, "B" category prisoners suspected of involvement in the coup attempt but against whom no legal charges were brought.

Today's release leaves 2,211 suspected Communists still in detention.

Lieutenant-General Yogi Sogama, Chief of Staff of Kopkamtib, the National Security Agency, told reporters after today's ceremony that the remaining detainees would be freed before Christmas, bringing the total released to about half a million.—Reuters.

Professor killed by gang in Istanbul street

From Sinan Fisek
Ankara, Nov 20

Professor Umit Yasar Doganay, assistant Dean of the School of Political Sciences in Istanbul, was shot dead in a street near the Istanbul Law School, where Professor Doganay taught did not attend classes in protest.

The Dean of the Istanbul Law School, suspended classes.

Professor Doganay was the last in a series of murders of academics in Turkey allegedly by right-wing terrorists. Nearly 2,500 people have died in the past two years in acts of political violence.

The violence has shown a marked increase during the past week. The murder on Monday night of the Ihan Egemen Darendeligen, a journalist and former MP, who was a leading figure of the extreme right, believe that Professor Doganay was murdered in reprisal by neo-fascist elements, although he was not known to hold strong political views.

100 coup suspects held in Seychelles roundup

From Our Correspondent
Nairobi, Nov 20

The wave of arrests in the Seychelles, after the alleged discovery of a plan to stage a coup against President René, appears to have been halted.

The official Seychelles news agency reports that "about 80" suspects are being detained, although unofficial sources in the Seychelles say the number is more than a hundred.

A curfew remains in force, but the agency says it will be eased when the security situation is judged to be satisfactory.

President René, in a broadcast, claimed this week that enemies of his socialist government in South Africa and France had recruited mercenaries, who have been standing by in Durban ready to move to the Seychelles. The plan was to launch surprise attacks and to assassinate him and other leaders, he said.

A French technical adviser working with the Seychelles police, M Jacques Chevalereau, has been arrested and questioned and efforts by M

Corruption wri against former minister dropped

From Our Correspondent
Kuala Lumpur, Nov 20

The Malaysian Government today withdrew 17 charges against a former Minister of Education, Datuk Abdul Aziz, and using public posts for private gain against D Harun Idris, the former Minister of Selangor State.

A charismatic member of ruling United Malays National Organisation (UMNO), Datuk Harun is serving a six-year jail term but retains considerable support within the party.

Datuk Abdul Aziz, 56, a high-ranking barrister, had 12 years when he was removed from office in 1976 and convicted of corruption and a final breach of trust.

Multinationals favoured target for terrorists

From Michael Leapman
New York, Nov 20

The number of terrorist incidents throughout the world has doubled since last year, according to a study published here. In the first nine months of the year there were 2,662 incidents and they are occurring at a rate of between 250 and 300 a month. The total for all of last year was 1,511. In 1972 the total was only 206.

These findings were released in conjunction with a report, "International Terrorism and Business Security", prepared by the Conference Board, a business research organisation.

A terrorist incident is defined as an assassination, kidnapping, bombing or personal assault with a political motive.

Introducing the report, Mr E. Patrick McGuire, its author, pointed out some changes in the nature of terrorism during the seventies. Targets chosen are increasingly international corporations rather than government or military installations and personnel, because companies are easier to pay ransoms.

The structure of terrorist groups was becoming less centralized, he pointed out, making it harder to combat them. Thus the murder of Lord Mountbatten, he said, seems to have been carried out by a local cell which neither sought nor needed approval from the highest IRA leadership.

In further comment on the IRA, the report stated: "There is evidence that IRA arrangements are now taking their battle against the British beyond their traditional battlegrounds of Northern Ireland and the British mainland. Such moves fit in with a basic concept of terrorist strategy that battlegrounds have no boundaries."

Because outsiders cannot understand what motivates terrorists, it is difficult to analyse trends, Mr McGuire points out. "Terrorists tend to be insulated and estranged from

Centre-left Bolivian Cabinet is sworn in

La Paz, Nov 20.—Sofia

La Paz, Nov 20.—Sofia La Paz, the President of Bolivia, swore in her centre-left Cabinet here yesterday.

The Cabinet, formed over the weekend after the return of civilian rule, includes only military men, Colonel Mas Ayrosa, the Defence Minister, Oscar Bonifaz, Minister for Mining in the previous civilian administration, has retained his portfolio.

The Government's stated priority will be to try to solve the economic crisis. A medium-term assignment will be to prepare for national elections scheduled for next May.

Present at the swearing ceremony was Senator Victor Estenssoro, three times President and now widely considered as "the power behind the throne." Eight of the 19 ministers belong to his party.

The full Cabinet is: Foreign Affairs: Julio Daroit; Interior: Jorge Solari; Education: Carlos Carrasco; Transport and Communications: Valentin; Planning: Jorge Agreda; Finance: Agustín Guevara; Labour: Oscar García; Health: Oscar García; Agriculture: Luis Anas; Social Security: Germán Arce; Social Welfare: Juan Carlos de Guevara; Information: Oscar Paz; Justice: Francisco Paz.

Employers Tomorrow, you could be asked about the Job Release Scheme.

The Job Release Scheme is being widely publicised—so more employees may be asking your permission to take part. And it could make sound business sense to say yes. Take your staff relations for example. The scheme will attract applicants with health problems, family problems or any of another dozen real reasons for wanting to stop work.

The point is, they can't take advantage of the Scheme without your agreement.

Once you agree, you would take on someone from the unemployed register—but not necessarily for the same job. So think of the opportunities for making promotions and bringing in some new blood. And you'll be helping the Government help the unemployed. Make sure you know all the details now.

Ring Eileen Tingey on 01-213 5538, 01-213 6857 or write to her at: P.O. Box 72, London SW20 8SZ.

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Department of Employment

A short cut to a longer and happier retirement



Central Bolivia Cabinet Sworn in

Future efficiency of security service the main task: Bill in official information dropped

Government has decided that it would not be right for the Provision of Official Information Bill to proceed further in present circumstances. Mrs Margaret Thatcher, Prime Minister, announced to the House of Commons today that the Bill would be dropped.

Mrs Thatcher said that the Bill was a "very important" one, but that the Government was not in a position to proceed with it at the moment. She said that the Bill was "a very important" one, but that the Government was not in a position to proceed with it at the moment.

Protection of Official Information Bill in the House of Lords. Mrs Thatcher said that the Bill was a "very important" one, but that the Government was not in a position to proceed with it at the moment. She said that the Bill was "a very important" one, but that the Government was not in a position to proceed with it at the moment.

one who followed his Marxist conscience? (Conservative laughter). Will she not yield to their pressure to see the Government's security services at a time of rising Soviet threat? Mrs Thatcher said that the Bill was a "very important" one, but that the Government was not in a position to proceed with it at the moment. She said that the Bill was "a very important" one, but that the Government was not in a position to proceed with it at the moment.

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Why Mr Blunt's solicitor was told

decision has yet been taken on whether there is to be a public inquiry into the circumstances of the Blunt affair. Margaret Thatcher, the Prime Minister, said in a written reply to a question from the House of Commons today that she was not in a position to say whether there was to be a public inquiry into the circumstances of the Blunt affair.

out in Sir David Maxwell Fyfe's Directive of September 24, 1952, the general principles of which, together with their application, were endorsed by Lord Denning's report (Comm. 2152, paras 238 to 240).

Mr Macfarlane also asked the Prime Minister to make a further statement regarding the other public services in which it was suspected that there may have been penetration of foreign security services. Mrs Thatcher said that the Bill was a "very important" one, but that the Government was not in a position to proceed with it at the moment.

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Typotists keep right to advertise

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Protecting workers from shop stewards

The reputation of Mr. Michael Edwards, who became more and more like the mole at British Leyland, was being damaged by the House of Commons today. Mrs Thatcher said that the Bill was a "very important" one, but that the Government was not in a position to proceed with it at the moment.

New Royal Naval Reserve to be formed

Mr Keith Speed, Under Secretary of Defence for the Royal Navy, said in a written reply to a question from the House of Commons today that the Government was planning to form a new Royal Naval Reserve. He said that the new Reserve would be formed by 1980.

Aid for fishing

Mr Allick Buchanan-Smith, Minister of State for Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, said in a written reply to a question from the House of Commons today that the Government was planning to provide aid for fishing. He said that the aid would be provided in the form of grants.

MP's Bill seeks to end practice of jury vetting

Jury vetting had been conducted in secret to the detriment of justice in England and Wales, according to a Bill introduced today by Mr. John Grieve, an MP. The Bill seeks to end the practice of jury vetting.

Scottish bail law changed

House of Lords. When the Bill etc (Scotland) Bill was considered in committee, Lord Macleay of Clashfern, Lord Advocate, said that the Government was planning to change the Scottish bail law. He said that the change would be made in the form of a Bill.

Overseas student fees in UK still a good investment

Many foreign students attending British universities were from countries with an average income well above that of the United Kingdom, according to a report published today. The report said that the investment in overseas students was still a good one.

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People with a position to maintain in the world keep informed with The Times Special Reports. The Times Special Reports provide the latest news and analysis on a wide range of topics, including politics, economics, and international affairs.

Aviation Bill not an exercise in asset stripping

The Civil Aviation Bill was read a second time by 311 votes to 247 in the House of Commons today. The Bill is aimed at improving the efficiency of the civil aviation industry and is not an exercise in asset stripping.

MP's Bill seeks to end practice of jury vetting

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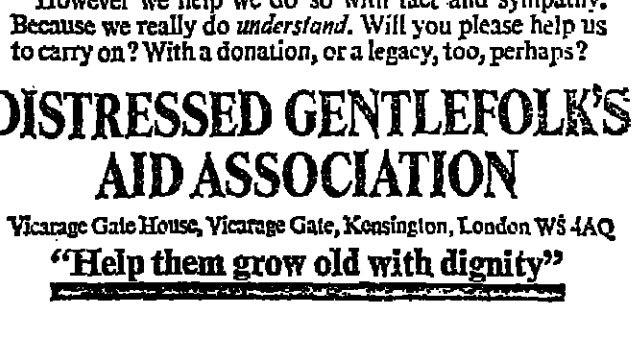
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'I didn't want to be a burden, but what fool is my pension nowadays?'

When you've paid into a pension to make yourself self-sufficient in retirement, it is heart-breaking to have to ask for help.

But what else can this gentleman do? He couldn't have foreseen that the pound in his pocket would go on being worthless and less with every year that passes.

People like this deserve our help. People who have stood on their own two feet all their lives. People who have planned and saved for their old age. Inflation is no fault of theirs, yet they suffer for it.

At the DGAA we do all we can to help people like this. They want to stay on in their own homes, so we help with allowances. Only when they can no longer cope do we find them a place in one of our Residential or Nursing Homes.

However we help we do so with tact and sympathy. Because we really do understand. Will you please help us to carry on? With a donation, or a legacy, too, perhaps?

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"Help them grow old with dignity"

THE ARTS

Detroit SO/Dorati
Festival Hall

Stanley Sadie

The Detroit Symphony Orchestra, long familiar to us from their recordings, have never until now visited Europe. Monday night's Festival Hall concert was in fact their London debut. Their records speak truthfully of them: here is an orchestra of sound musicianship and first-rate technical quality.

Their main test piece was Mahler's First Symphony. Under Antal Dorati, this was no emotional extravaganza, but a strong, sober reading, concentrating more on clarity of texture and integrity of line, and leaving the emotional content of the music to speak for itself. And in that the character of the orchestra was on Mr Dorati's side. The strings here are full-toned, but they are not in the least lush. The violin sound, if not exactly austere, is firm and solid, with a full sheen but a sharp focus; and the same could be said of the other string departments. We had an almost alarmingly rich and throaty sound from the violas in their F minor solo late in the finale, and a beautifully smooth, almost cello-like solo from the leading double-bass in the "Frère Jacques" music—Mahler perhaps expected something more gruff, but I would not complain.

There was some superb playing from the brass: crisp, urgent trumpets in the future music, and only and surely ringing horns. The woodwind seem to stress blend and precision above individual refinement; their clean, strong lines and their unanimity in the slow music at the opening of the first movement were a model of control.

Control is Mr Dorati's strong suit. He holds the tempo firm, often leisurely but always taut, permits no liberties, no excess of sentimentality, even in the slow movement—though there he allowed extreme delicacy and sweetness in the violins. A major music. There was a sturdy scherzo, and a finale notable for its decisive pulse and its clean, hard lines. And where, in the outer movements, the moments of emotional release arrived, they left nothing in force for restraint in what had gone before.

Earlier we heard music from Barber's *Modest* ballet, deftly written, if not much above the level of a superior film score; and Mendelssohn's violin concerto, with Yehudi Menuhin bringing to many refinements, both of affection and understanding but often seeming too tense to make his points in fully relaxed fashion.

CINEMAS

PIZZA 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67, 68, 69, 70, 71, 72, 73, 74, 75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81, 82, 83, 84, 85, 86, 87, 88, 89, 90, 91, 92, 93, 94, 95, 96, 97, 98, 99, 100, 101, 102, 103, 104, 105, 106, 107, 108, 109, 110, 111, 112, 113, 114, 115, 116, 117, 118, 119, 120, 121, 122, 123, 124, 125, 126, 127, 128, 129, 130, 131, 132, 133, 134, 135, 136, 137, 138, 139, 140, 141, 142, 143, 144, 145, 146, 147, 148, 149, 150, 151, 152, 153, 154, 155, 156, 157, 158, 159, 160, 161, 162, 163, 164, 165, 166, 167, 168, 169, 170, 171, 172, 173, 174, 175, 176, 177, 178, 179, 180, 181, 182, 183, 184, 185, 186, 187, 188, 189, 190, 191, 192, 193, 194, 195, 196, 197, 198, 199, 200, 201, 202, 203, 204, 205, 206, 207, 208, 209, 210, 211, 212, 213, 214, 215, 216, 217, 218, 219, 220, 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Law Report November 20 1979

Court of Appeal

Employers' consent to holding union meetings may be implied

Marley Tile Co Ltd v Shaw
Before Lord Justice Stephenson,
Lord Justice Goff and Lord Justice
Evelgh

Judgments delivered Nov 12
An employer's consent to an employee taking part in trade union activities at an "appropriate time" during working hours as to be implied from the meaning of paragraph 6(4A) of Schedule 1 to the Trade Union and Labour Relations Act, 1974, may be implied as well as expressed.

The Court of Appeal held that shop steward not accepted by management could not be regarded in the absence of a general arrangement, as having implied consent to call a meeting during working hours, nor could consent be implied from the employer's silence when he indicated an intention to summon the meeting.

Their Lordships, allowing an appeal by the employers, Marley Tile Co Ltd, from a majority of the Employment Appeal Tribunal (Mr Justice Phillips and Mr Justice Goff, Mr M. L. Clement-Jones dissenting) (7th Times, April 27, 1978, [1978] 1 CIL 228) found that Mr Peter Shaw, maintenance engineer at the company's works at Newbury, had not been unfairly dismissed, but had been dismissed for taking part in union activities within the meaning of paragraph 6(4).

Paragraph 6(4) provides: "... he dismissal of an employee by an employer shall be regarded as unfair if the reason or one of the reasons for it is, or more than one, the principal reason was that the employee ... at any appropriate time ... the activities of an independent trade union."

Paragraph 6(4A) provides: "... appropriate time ... means time which ... (b) is a time within his working hours at which, in accordance with arrangements agreed with or consent given by his employer, it is permissible for him to take part in those activities."

Paragraph 6(4A) was added by paragraph 11 of Part III of Schedule 16 to the Employment Protection Act, 1975.

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Paragraph 6(6) provides: "Any reason is to be regarded as unfair if it is based on the fact that the employee is a member of, or takes part in the activities of, an independent trade union."

Mr Alexander Irvine, QC, and Mr Eldred Tabachnik, for the employers, Mr Christopher Rose, QC, and Mr John Hand for Mr Shaw.

LORD JUSTICE GOFF said that Mr Shaw, who had been appointed a shop steward by the AUEW, an independent trade union, arranged a meeting with his employers to discuss pay differentials. At the meeting the employers informed him that they were unable to accept his status as shop steward. When Mr Shaw then expressed his intention to telephone the union district secretary and call a meeting of the maintenance men, no comment was made by the employers. Finally, a one-hour unofficial stoppage took place and Mr Shaw was dismissed.

At an industrial tribunal at Leeds, Mr Shaw relied on paragraphs 6(4), (4A), and (6). The tribunal considered the merits of the parties' conduct and found in favour of Mr Shaw, who they said was not responsible for the stoppage. They made the broad dismissal for taking part in union activities, but failed to identify the exact reason for his dismissal: that the activities had taken place at an appropriate time since consent could be inferred from the relationship of management and employees to work together with the union.

The Employment Appeal Tribunal held that the dismissal was unfair, agreeing that consent could be implied from the general relationship of management and union in a factory, but disagreeing that consent could be implied from silence.

The court's task had been made difficult because of the industrial tribunal's frequent allusions to the "reasonableness" of the parties' conduct. The question of reasonableness did not arise. The tribunal had erred in using a "broad brush approach" and had failed to answer the vital question

of what was the reason for the dismissal. It was therefore open to the court to find that the reason was taking the men to the meeting and making the telephone call. The court would assume that such action amounted to participation in union activities.

The telephone call could be dealt with by applying the principle of *de minimis non curat lex*, but the calling of the meeting could not as it involved taking the men away from their work. That activity, taking place within working hours, was only at an "appropriate time" if the employers' consent had been obtained. Mr Irvine had argued that the words "arrangements" and "consent" in paragraph 6(4A) meant express arrangements and express consent.

It was not necessary to decide whether an arrangement could be implied; it did not necessarily have to be. But consent could not be deduced from silence. Mr Clement-Jones was right when he said: "Unless there is a general agreement or arrangement which covered it, the shop steward was acting on his own initiative. The relevant time cannot be taken to have implied consent to call such a meeting in working hours."

His Lordship, adopting Mr Clement-Jones's words, said that such implied consent could not be "reasonably assumed to exist either by extension from other factories in the Marley group, or by having regard to custom and practice at their Dewbury plant" since the union had not nominated a shop steward before.

In the circumstances there was no warrant for inferring a requisite consent. Consequently, the activities did not take place at an "appropriate time", and the dismissal was not unfair. The appeal would be allowed.

LORD JUSTICE STEPHENSON and LORD JUSTICE EVELGH gave concurring judgments.

The appeal was allowed with costs.

Solicitors: Mr Simon Davies, Sevenoaks; Brian Thompson & Co, Manchester.

Paragraph 6(4) provides: "... he dismissal of an employee by an employer shall be regarded as unfair if the reason or one of the reasons for it is, or more than one, the principal reason was that the employee ... at any appropriate time ... the activities of an independent trade union."

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No discrimination against woman wrestler

Greater London Council v Farrar
Before Mr Justice Slynn, President, Miss J. W. Colleson and Mr A. C. Bygham.

Judgment delivered Nov 19
A woman professional wrestler who was refused employment by a promotions company because of a provision in a Greater London Council licence prohibiting women's wrestling was not unlawfully discriminated against because of her sex. The Employment Appeal Tribunal accepted the GLC's defence under section 51(1)(b) of the Sex Discrimination Act, 1975, that the discrimination was necessary in order to comply with the licence, an instrument made under a previous statute—the London Government Act, 1963.

The Appeal Tribunal allowed an appeal by the GLC from a decision of a London industrial tribunal that the applicant, Mrs Marjorie Farrar, was entitled to a declaration that the refusal to permit her to wrestle in a GLC controlled hall was unlawful discrimination on the ground of her sex, contrary to the provisions of the Sex Discrimination Act.

Section 51 provides: "(1)

Nothing in parts II to IV shall render unlawful any act done by a person if it was necessary for him to do it in order to comply with a requirement ... (b) of an instrument made or approved (whether before or after the passing of this Act) by or under an Act passed before this Act."

Mr Gerald Angel for the GLC; Mr Francis Reynolds for the applicant.

MR JUSTICE SLYNN said that the applicant had asked Verdon Leslie Promotions for an engagement as a professional wrestler. They refused, saying that the wrestling licence issued by the GLC governing wrestling at Manor Place Baths, Southwark, had a condition prohibiting women from taking part. The applicant applied to an industrial tribunal for a declaration that the GLC had discriminated against her on the ground of her sex.

There was no question of the GLC itself refusing employment, but the tribunal held that it had knowingly aided another person to do an unlawful act and should be an Act giving the GLC powers to include such terms as it thought right. The question was whether the instrument was *intra vires* the

1963, provided for the licensing of premises used for wrestling. The licence issued by the GLC for the relevant premises contained a provision prohibiting women's wrestling.

The industrial tribunal had considered whether the condition was lawful. It found that although before the Sex Discrimination Act such a condition was lawful, after the Act it was not.

The GLC relied on section 51(1)(b). It conceded that the policy was discriminatory but argued that it was not unlawful. For the applicant Mr Reynolds accepted that a licence under the London Government Act was an instrument made or approved under an Act of Parliament within the meaning of section 51(1)(b), but he contended that a licence made after the Sex Discrimination Act, 1975, was void.

The Appeal Tribunal took the view that the question was whether what was done by the instrument came within the powers given by the Act under which it was made. The licence was granted under an Act giving the GLC powers to include such terms as it thought right. The question was whether the instrument was *intra vires* the

body making it. The 1973 Act did not require as a matter of law that the discriminatory condition had to be removed.

Mr Reynolds had cited *Associated Provincial Picture Houses Ltd v Wednesbury Corporation* (1948) 1 KB 223. But it was clear that the GLC had properly considered the effect of the 1975 Act on its policy of restricting wrestling licences. It was not possible to say that it had exercised its discretion unreasonably.

The industrial tribunal was wrong to hold that before a condition could be included in a licence it should not be contrary to the 1975 Act. Section 51(1)(b) expressly kept alive a previous instrument. If Parliament had intended that all instruments made after the 1975 Act should comply with the Act, it would have said so. If that was correct and the licence validated the company's refusal of employment there could be no question of the GLC knowingly aiding another person to do an unlawful act.

The industrial tribunal had considered the effect of section 44, which provided a defence for acts relating to participation in sports

where a woman's physique put her at a disadvantage to a man. The Court of Appeal had considered the section in *Bennett v Football Association Ltd* (unreported, July 28, 1978), a case concerned with a 12-year-old girl who wanted to play football in a mixed team. Lord Denning stated that football was a game outside the Sex Discrimination Act.

The Appeal Tribunal agreed that where it was desired to exclude a girl from a mixed team, section 44 prevented the exclusion from being unlawful discrimination. But the section was not dealing with a situation where a team of girls played against another team of girls. The Court of Appeal's decision applied only to the facts of the case before it and Mr Reynolds succeeded on that point.

The words of section 51(1)(b) expressly contemplated that provision might be made under instruments even after the passing of the 1975 Act which prevented from being unlawful acts otherwise unlawful under Part II.

The appeal was allowed and leave to appeal granted.

Solicitors: Mr R. A. Latham; Bindman & Partners.

Court of Appeal

Dismissal of headmaster is restrained by injunction

Jones v Lee and Another
Before Lord Denning, Master of the Rolls, Lord Justice Roskill and Lord Justice Cumming-Bruce

Judgments delivered October 31
The head teacher of a Roman Catholic voluntary aided primary school who had been dismissed by the school managers after his divorce and remarriage in a register office was granted an injunction restraining the managers from dismissing or purporting to dismiss him without the consent of the county council given after a hearing in accordance with the council's conditions of tenure for teachers in primary schools.

The Court of Appeal allowed an appeal by Mr Harold Clifford Michael Jones, of Trizley Gloucestershire, from Mr Justice Mansfield's discharge on August 31 of an interim injunction restraining the Rev John Patrick Lee and Mrs J. R. Gilling (sued on their own behalf and on behalf of the Roman Catholic Primary School, Churchdown, Gloucestershire) from purporting to dismiss him from the school without the consent of Gloucestershire County Council given after such a hearing.

Section 17(3) of the Education Act, 1944, provides "every voluntary primary school shall be

conducted in accordance with rules of management made by an order of the local education authority ... By section 24(2) of the Act ... (a) shall make provision ... enabling the authority, except for reasons for which the managers ... are expressly empowered by this Act to dismiss teachers without such consent, to prohibit the dismissal of teachers without the consent of the authority ..."

Mr Alec Grant for Mr Jones; Mr Jon Harvey, QC, and Mr Andrew Thompson for the managers.

THE MASTER OF THE ROLLS said that Mr Jones, a married man, had been appointed head teacher of the school in 1973 on the usual conditions of tenure. It was a small school of 134 children aged between five and eleven. After a divorce, Mr Jones had remarried at a register office in December, 1978, a woman who had been a teacher at the school.

On March 16, 1979, the managers suspended Mr Jones from his duties and decided to inform the Roman Catholic bishop and ask him to appoint a tribunal. The bishop did so. After a hearing at which counsel appeared for and against Mr Jones, the

tribunal reported on June 20 that they were of the unanimous opinion that he should be dismissed from his post. On July 9 the managers summarily dismissed him and the county council stopped paying his salary. Mr Jones challenged the decision. He said that he could not be dismissed without the consent of the county council. On July 26 he issued a writ claiming an injunction.

The court said nothing on the problem arising from the different views on whether divorces followed by remarriages should affect the careers of teachers and whether they should be punished by dismissal. That was a matter for the school authorities and it varied from school to school.

It seemed to his Lordship that the managers had erred when they had referred the matter to the bishop and accepted his tribunal's report. The managers were the parties to the contract and the proper people to exercise power of dismissal. They should have recognised their own responsibilities for the decision and not surrendered them to any other body.

Was Mr Jones entitled not to be dismissed without the consent of the county council? The school was voluntary aided.

The county council were agents for the managers. The conditions of tenure had been sent by the chief education officer to Mr Jones on July 26, 1975, on his appointment. They referred to the rules of management and stated that before any decision relating to dismissal was taken the teacher should have the right to be heard before the local education authority whose consent was required to the dismissal. Any ordinary person reading the conditions relating to dismissal would believe that they applied to him. On that simple ground Mr Jones was right.

The rules of management were said to be incorporated in the conditions. But there were no rules. Rules of management ought to have been made by the county council in accordance with section 17 (3) of the Education Act, 1944. None had been made by the council during the 25 years since the Act was passed.

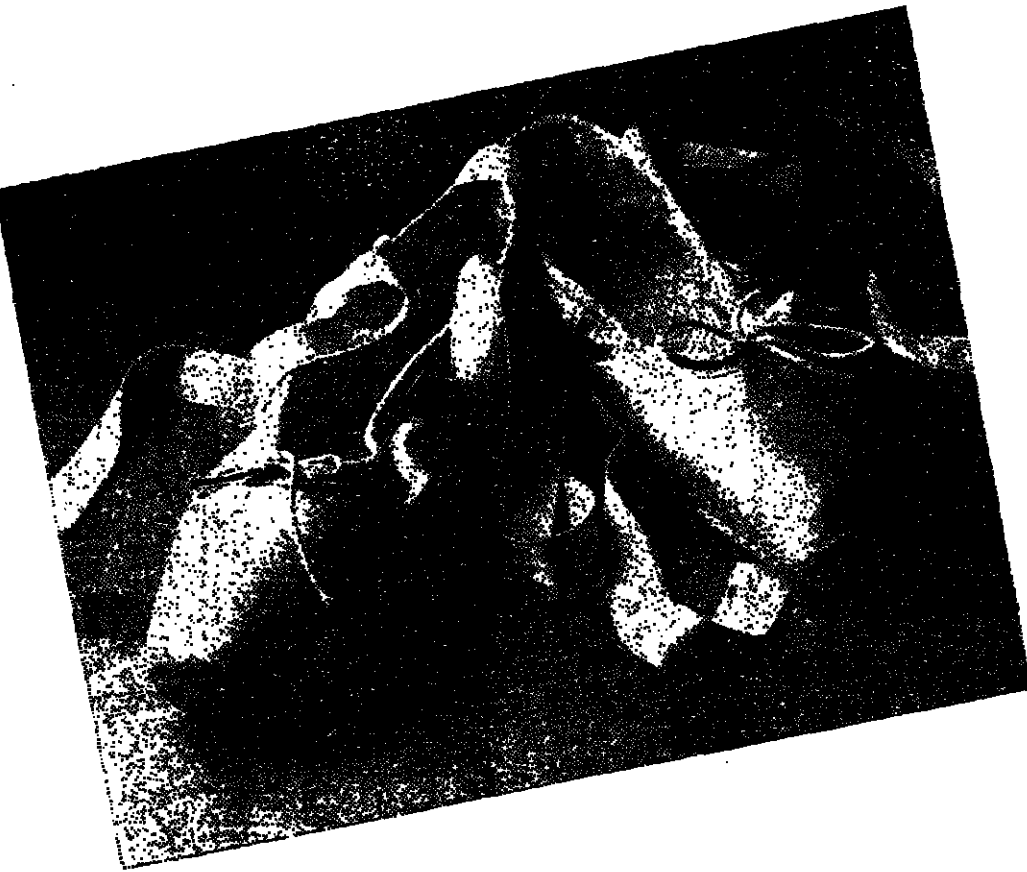
It was quite plain that rules of management should have been made containing provisions as to dismissal: see section 24 (2) (a) of the Act. A White Paper (Cmd 6523 of 1944) contained model provisions providing a series of protections. In the absence of rules of management the court should assume that they would have contained such provisions favourable to Mr Jones.

Any head teacher reading the contract would be led to believe that the conditions applied to him. It was within the general principle that a person who made a representation which he intended another person to act upon could not go back on it where the representation had been acted upon and was intended to be binding. An injunction should be granted as in *Smith v Macdonald* [1912] 1 CB 518.

LORD JUSTICE ROSKILL, agreeing, said that the county council had put the conditions of tenure forward as agents for the managers and the document must be construed against the latter. The problem had arisen because of the county council's failure to perform its duty under section 17 (3) to provide rules of management. The decision whether to dismiss rested with the managers, yet they had put themselves in the position of being prosecutors before the bishop's tribunal.

Lord Justice Cumming-Bruce delivered a concurring judgment. Leave to appeal to the House of Lords was refused.

Solicitors: Royds, Barfield, Ellis, Wood, Bickersteth & Hazel for Stone, King & Wardle, Bath.



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Small selling

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 \$ Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days

§ Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days

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Really Dry Gin

[illegible]

THE TIMES

BUSINESS NEWS

Foord
surveyors

Stock markets
FT Ind 407.7 down 3.6
FT Gilts 65.01 down 0.48

Sterling
\$2.1680 down 1.75 cents
Index 69.6 down 0.2

Dollar
Index 86.6 up 0.1

Gold
\$385.5 an ounce down
\$2.5

3-month money
Inter-bank 17 1/16 to
17 1/8
Euro \$ 14 15/16 to
15 1/16

IN BRIEF

Payments warning on insurance breakdowns

A warning that breakdowns in the world insurance market could occur in the near future came yesterday from Frank Holland, chairman of the E. Heath Insurance Co. He said that with business being insured more and more around the world, companies could face recovery or, at the worst, slow payment of claims as a result of weak links in the chain of reinsurers. Mr Holland said that all insurers kept long lists of reinsurers who they were not prepared to place business with, but sometimes they could be sure who the ultimate reinsurer might be when insurance chains involved many parties.

Special Editor, page 21.

Upper moves up
Upper prices moved higher on the London Metal Exchange yesterday on news from Lusaka. President Kuunda had ordered a 10 per cent increase in the price of copper, which had been called a full-scale situation.

The close of morning business in the London Metal Exchange saw cash prices for copper and nickel rise. Copper was up 10.00 to 10.05, and nickel was up 10.00 to 10.05. At the afternoon session, prices were: Cash rose 1.125 on the day, and three months £1,006.50, a rise of 75.

Commodities, page 23

Yland sale

British Leyland's Crawley factory interests at the Aveling & Porter factory at Gainsborough have been sold to Mr. Nickerson, an undisclosed farmer, for an undisclosed sum. Mr. Nickerson plans to employ 50 to 100 workers and hopes to revive production of industrial tractors. The remainder of the Gainsborough plant is being sold separately.

Accession to China

Spain is likely to inform the Chinese government during the visit of the Spanish Prime Minister, Mr. Adolfo Suarez, next month that it is giving preferential tariff treatment on imported Chinese goods, officials of the Ministry of International Trade and Industry has announced.

Defence ships order

The Ministry of Defence is planning to provide orders for British Shipbuilders whose jobs need more work to secure employment. Cleland, one of the corporation's subsidiaries, is to build two 250-ton lighters for the Defence Ministry in a contract worth £1.8m.

Wundry phase-out

Mr. J. Hill, the West Midlands engineering group, is to phase out production at the Loughborough factory of its four subsidiaries with the loss of jobs.

Nuclear report

A report by the Nuclear Installations Inspectorate on the accident at the nuclear power station at Three Mile Island in Pennsylvania, which is examining nuclear power in the United States, is to be published, Mr. Man Lamont, under secretary of the Department of Energy, said yesterday.

Societies certain to fix mortgage rate at record 15pc tomorrow

By Margaret Stone
A record mortgage interest rate of 15 per cent from the beginning of 1980 is the almost certain outcome of tomorrow's emergency meeting of the Building Societies Association called in response to the Chancellor's credit squeeze measures announced last week.

Hopes that the mortgage interest rate, now 10.75 per cent, would be cut to 10.5 per cent in January, could be contained at 14 per cent, have faded after more detailed consideration of the economic package which included generous terms for National Savings.

The improved interest rates for both the new issue of National Savings Certificates and the investment account of the National Savings Bank will not take effect until next year. It is this indication that the Government itself believes that interest rates will remain high for a good proportion of 1980 which has finally convinced the building societies that they must keep in line.

To remain competitive and secure sufficient mortgage funds to maintain a home lending programme of £800m a month, building societies must raise the investment rate to 10.5 per cent, tax paid, which is equivalent to 15 per cent gross.

This level is being offered on bank deposits including, from January 1, the National Savings Bank. The banks will be arguing for a more advantageous investment rate.

To match this level of interest, the societies, which have exhausted their stock for generous gestures when they delayed implementing the mortgage rate increase in July, will be obliged to push up the mortgage interest rate to 15 per cent.

Positive approval for this course of action came yesterday from Mr. Donald Moody, president of the House Builders' Federation. Speaking at the federation's annual conference, he said: "However hard this sounds, it must be now be fully understood that it helps no one, least of all house purchasers, to hold down the mortgage rate, if that results in shortages of funds for house purchases."

The implications of a penal mortgage interest rate were spelled out yesterday by Mr. Christopher Johnson, economic adviser to the Treasury. He said the increase in house prices was likely to slow down next year and added: "Some houses may fall in price for a short time."

OFT calls for more facts on Narby deal

By Peter Wainwright
Eurocanadian Shipholdings, the shipping group led by Mr. Frank Narby, claims that it has secured a 10 per cent stake in the 18.4 per cent stake in Furness Withy, the shipping line, as it promised the Monopolies and Mergers Commission in December, 1976.

The claim, however, may be premature. Last night, the Office of Fair Trading said that it was seeking further information "to determine whether the proposed arrangements meet the terms of the undertaking."

Eurocanadian is in no doubt that it has complied, and the group took legal advice to settle the point to its own satisfaction. But the OFT is thought to believe that Eurocanadian has not acted exactly in the way the Commission thought it would.

The shipping group, which had until the end of this year to comply with the undertaking, has transferred its holding to shareholders or affiliates.

Dolphin Investments, controlled by Mr. Frank Narby and his associates, has acquired 11.2 per cent of the stake, and Helix Investments, controlled by fellow Eurocanadian director Mr. D. Webster for its Bermudian affiliate, 3.3 per cent. The remainder of the stake in Canadian National Railways or its pension fund. Dr. R. A. Bandeen is president and chief executive.

Engineering report signed

The Finniston report on the problems of the engineering profession and of manufacturing industry has been completed, and signed without dissent by the 16-member investigating committee. Sir Monty Finniston has announced. It is expected to be published early next year.

Nestle in US

Vevey, Switzerland—Nestle SA is taking over Beech-Nut Corp. of Port Washington, Pennsylvania, a United States manufacturer of baby food. Nestle's managing director, Mr. Arthur Fischer, said the acquisition of Beech-Nut, which had sales of \$65.2m in 1978, will enable Nestle to establish a foothold in the United States baby food business.—Reuters.

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Underlying level suggests unemployment figures on the brink of a sharp increase

By Caroline Atkinson
The underlying level of unemployment rose slightly this month, while the number of job vacancies dropped. This suggests a turning point for unemployment, which is expected to rise sharply next year.

A total of 1,222,400 adults were out of work (excluding Northern Ireland) on November 8. This represents 5.2 per cent of the work force, the same proportion as were jobless in October. A sharp fall in the number of unemployed school leavers this month led to a drop of 10,542 in the overall number of people registered as unemployed.

For the United Kingdom as a whole, a bigger drop brought the unadjusted total to 1,211,858. A fall in the number of job vacancies gives a guide to the strength of demand in the labour market. Jobs notified to employment offices—which are believed to account for about

Prior warning to unions against use of 'industrial muscle'

By Paul Routledge
Labour Editor

On the eve of the critical miners' executive meeting, the Government yesterday issued a warning to the unions against using industrial muscle to gain excessive wage settlements this winter.

Mr. James Prior, Secretary of State for Employment, said, "the days have gone" when powerful groups of workers could demand what they wanted in the knowledge that others would have to pay the bill.

Mr. Prior re-emphasized the Government's determination to avoid a statutory incomes policy as a financial times conference on industrial relations in London. "We don't stand a chance of making it work," he said.

It is often said that there will always be those groups who can escape the full consequences of their own excessive pay awards; that they can press for big pay increases with impunity; that the grim aftermath of the use of industrial muscle will be visited not on themselves but on others.

"Let me say this to anyone foolish or selfish enough to think that they can push for as big a pay deal as they want. For the past few years our economy has been weakened by high unemployment and ravaged by high inflation."

"Now we have to face a world recession. To press ahead with a big pay deal in these conditions is to run a very big risk that it will backfire and put us on the weakest. Some people may think they could get away with it in the past. But I must tell them that those days have gone."

"Everyone in industry must see to it that there are sensible discussions about ways to finance pay deals and how to increase company performance." These discussions would ensure there was more money available to pay for wage rises in succeeding years. "There is simply no other way in today's economic conditions," Mr. Prior said.

His reiteration of the Government's message on pay marks a new urgency in a drive that shows little sign of having the desired effect. Shell tanker crews have secured an 18 per cent offer, miners' leaders will today almost certainly go down the same road, and steelworkers insist that the British Steel Corporation should make a proper reply to their 25 per

mal working." BOC added. After only two days of an overtime ban and work to rule, the company's output was running at between 60 per cent and 80 per cent of normal. The action was creating serious distribution problems.

The union has rejected as "derisory" the company's offer for an eight-month agreement expiring in May which would give an average wage increase of £14.58 a week.

BOC said its offer up to May was final but was prepared to negotiate a long-term settlement.

The Iranian sources claimed that the firm now on the ground would request German Deutsche marks, Swiss or French francs for payments.

The key question for the dollar is whether Iran alone moves away from it, or whether other oil exporters follow suit. In a speech for delivery in West Germany released for publication in Brussels, Dr. Guido Brunner, EEC Commissioner for Energy, said the dollar was for all countries the only viable currency of reference, and he appealed to the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (Opec) to make it clear it would continue to use the dollar to define oil prices.

The dollar remains vulnerable to bad news from Iran. Against the German Deutsche

same time as a statement from Opec sources in Vienna that they had no intention of abandoning the dollar for oil pricing, the Iranian sources claimed that the firm now on the ground would request German Deutsche marks, Swiss or French francs for payments.

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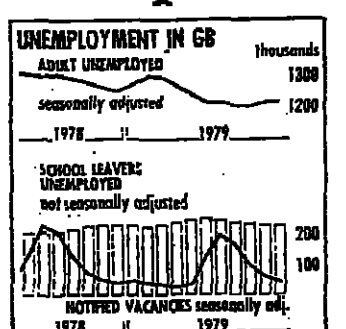
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UNEMPLOYMENT IN GB (thousands)

seasonally adjusted

not seasonally adjusted

1976 1977 1978 1979

NOTED VACANCIES seasonally adjusted

1976 1977 1978 1979

a third of total vacancies—have

fallen steadily on a seasonally

adjusted basis since mid-

summer. This month they dropped

to 233,100 from 236,200 in

October. There was also a fall

in the number of vacancies re-

ported by careers offices.

It is clear from these figures

that the economy is beginning

to slow down, although this

may have happened a little

later than some forecasters ex-

pected. The evidence from re-

cent buoyant money figures is

that consumer demand has been

growing strongly, helped by tax

rebates from the June Budget.

Mr. John Biffen, Chief Secre-

tary to the Treasury, announced

earlier this month that the Gov-

ernment was assuming a figure

of 1,650,000 adults out of work

on average in the year 1980-81

for its public spending plans.

This represents a rise of more

than 20 per cent from the

average level assumed for the

current financial year. The

present Government appears

much more willing than pre-

vious administrations to accept

high levels of unemployment,

if this is the price necessary to

bring down the rate of inflation.

The Government's special

job creation measures are

thought to be keeping about

236,000 people off the unemploy-

ment register at present. This

number will probably fall in

the coming months as some

schemes are phased out.

Hopes run high for Gatt talks agreement

From Peter Norman
Brussels, Nov 20

Hopes were running high this evening that EEC ministers had paved the way for ratification of the Tokyo Round of trade liberalization measures due to come into effect at the beginning of next year.

By the late evening sources close to the Council of Ministers' meeting were speaking of a breakthrough in the dispute that had last month prevented the Nine from approving the multinational trade agreement negotiated in the context of the general Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT). On one important issue, the French appear to have softened their original position of demanding that member states and not just the European Community should sign the codes agreed under the new GATT package.

The Ministers were at the time of going to press in restricted session in a bid to tie up loose ends of the GATT issue.

The apparent breakthrough came after it had seemed that EEC ministers would once again fail to give their political approval to the complex multinational trade agreement that took the form of approving the trade agreement before being initiated in April.

The deadline of December 31 is important as United States congressional approval of the ratification by major trading partners by this time. Without EEC ratification three key codes could have to be resubmitted to Congress—a move that could provoke the United States legislature to tack on a host of hostile amendments in view of the somewhat strained relations prevailing between the EEC and America.

One of these bones of contention is due to come before the ministers' meeting later tonight. It concerns the sharp rise in imports of low-cost man-made fibres from the United States into EEC markets, and particularly Britain.

EEC and American trade negotiators meeting in Washington yesterday and today were reported to have made little progress on the issue.

Observers close to today's Ministers' meeting were forecasting that it might authorize the EEC commission to take up negotiations with the United States authorities under Article 23 of the GATT treaty.

Other industrial items due to come before the ministers tonight are proposals from the EEC Industry Commissioner, Viscount Edouard d'Aragon, for an extension of the EEC's anti-crisis plan for steel in 1980, and a plan to subsidize the scrapping of old and the building of new merchant ships.

Milford Docks plans rights issue

Milford Docks Company is to raise further capital through a rights issue, the board said yesterday.

The terms will be announced after a revaluation of the company's assets to be carried out on December 31. The money will be used for long-term development plans.

Last week the company's employees wrote to shareholders asking for their support in a boardroom battle. They are concerned about the prospect of a group of minority shareholders with a 27 per cent stake which wants seats on the board.

An EGM has already been requisitioned although a date has not yet been announced.

Italy paid 7 pc commission to secure extra oil supply

Rome, Nov 20

Italy's government tonight admitted that the state oil corporation ENI paid a 7 per cent commission to a Panama finance company on a deal concluded with Petrotrin for 91,250,000 barrels of additional crude oil from South America over the next three years.

Signor Adolfo Sarri, minister for relations with Parliament, told the Chamber of Deputies that the foreign trade ministry authorized the payment of the commission to the Sophila company of Panama on behalf of intermediaries. He did not identify the intermediaries, beyond saying "Sophila has no shareholding link, direct or indirect, with ENI."

The minister was replying to 29 questions tabled by members of the opposition, asking for confirmation of Italian press reports that an unduly high commission had been promised, amounting to about \$120m. Some reports maintained that the commission was being split 3 per cent to Saudi recipients and 4 per cent to Italian interests through

BY THE FINANCIAL EDITOR

Americans in Lime Street

rest in the insurance broking sector is rising increasingly on the transatlantic ups created over the past 18 months. Heath is almost alone among United Kingdom major groups in spurning the idea of pooling arrangements and the like with American groups.

Each of course with its strong involvement in underwriting and special strength surplus lines business as well as strong ties with Rollins Burdick has not felt a strong need to go hunting for a United States bridgehead.

He group also relies heavily on Alexander & Alexander for United States business fears that this source could be vulnerable as a result of A&A's planned pooling agreement with Sedgwick Forbes Bland.

Then A&A moved its McDonnell Douglas unit away from Stewart Wrightson into the business went to Heath and Sedgwick.

Elsewhere traditional links between UK brokers and their American supporters have been disrupted much more noticeably particularly as a result of the sh & MacLennan pooling plan with ring. The United States groups are still keen to secure their connexion with the UK market at something closer than the length and could take advantage of not ratings to buy their way in.

It is, Heath's interim results provide an indication of the gloom now pervading the general insurance industry as business conditions deteriorate, particularly in the United States.

Heath's operating profits are down 10 per cent at £5.9m with the downturn attributed to the effect of sterling's strength on dollar income. In fact, brokerage, down slightly 8.6m, would have been 10 per cent up 9.4m if the pound had stood still while the profit would have almost doubled instead of more than a fifth down at 1.6m.

However, Heath is not denying that competition is getting tougher all the time while the UK is sticking doggedly at bargain basement levels in all sectors. So, like all UK insurers, who rely heavily on US business, there is no option but to go on the defensive, keep the lid on expenses and lie low waiting for better times which with action going higher may be nearer than pessimists suggest.

Director Ratings, then may be overdoing agony. Certainly Heath offering a fully paid p/e of over 7 assuming a drop of £2m just over £14m for the full year and a yield of around 7 per cent at 168p is to be squaring up to short-term prospects.

IC/Avery's

re day of skoning

cy's shareholders must now decide whether to accept GEC's takeover terms or vote the board of the Birmingham weighing machine company and reject the offer. The case for accepting is strongly put. GEC offering 265p a share, higher by 40 per cent than Avery's price before the idea of a merger was mooted a year ago and much higher than Avery's shares would be on the market now if, without GEC, they had been caught up in widespread nervousness about the engineering sector.

Shareholders can opt to take the GEC by Friday, perhaps even put it into a ring society, and earn about double the price they expect after Avery's defensive price increase in the payment.

It runs the argument that it is only a matter of price, and that in view of the ending recession GEC's offer is too good to resist. The opposing view, held by the Birmingham Assurance, Avery's largest shareholder, is that GEC is being opportunistic; that in spite of a forecast of 10 per cent more trading profit in 1979, Avery's been damaged by the engineering strike over this year, and that if its management believes it can survive and prosper independently it should be allowed to try to do so.

The political and industrial atmosphere is moment, in which it seems that those faster must yield to the strong, that is a fashionable view.

It is this an argument nevertheless, and that would have carried considerable weight a year ago when GEC first started wooing Avery. As it happens Avery's has faltered, but it may be about to pay the price for having been a rather dull, conservatively-managed company for too long.

The truth is that Avery's often seemed to promise more dramatic growth, particularly at the time of decimatisation and the onset of metrication, but that it failed to produce it.

Avery's started to wake up a couple of years ago, recognized the importance of micro-electronic application to its products, saw the threat of Far East competition and took steps to establish a more sophisticated sales and marketing effort.

This costs money and the fact that Avery's has for the first time taken on modest borrowings has been construed as the first sign of impending financial weakness by the GEC camp.

The snag for Avery's is that the seed of doubt has been sown; too often shareholders in companies like this have supported their board in fighting off a bid only to find that the value of their investment falls rapidly in real terms once the euphoria has died down and, worse, that they are being asked for additional funds to finance support for the ambitions set out during a defence.

This is the risk; and it is sufficiently real given the economic climate for Avery's shareholders to accept the GEC bid. It may be that on a three-year view GEC is getting Avery's cheaply, but if Avery's experience encourages other sound but historically sleepy companies to wake up, it will have been worthwhile.

Metal Box

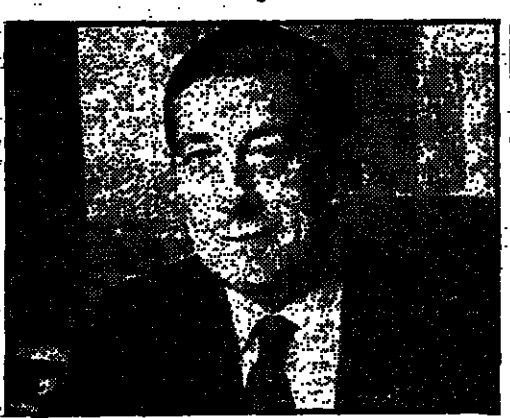
Dull at home

Metal Box has done better than the market expected in its first half, but it is being cagey about home prospects for the remainder of the 1979-80 period and beyond—and with good reason.

Home market profits so far are only £0.3m better at £22.3m and there was only a modest sales volume increase. This in turn masks an exceptionally strong showing from the Stalder central heating business (which turned in around 28 per cent of earnings) and a flat performance in metal cans where prices were held in line with BSC triplate prices for 10 months until October.

Fortunately, this was more than made up overseas. A near-40 per cent gain here pushed group interim profits up by 91 per cent to £33.9m on a 21.8 per cent sales increase.

This should continue but the question for domestic earnings is whether growth can be maintained in central heating (and with housing and improvement finance so expensive there must be a doubt) and to what extent Metal Box can reestablish satisfactory margins on cans after an 11½ per cent price increase the other day and in the face of



Mr Dennis Allport, chairman of Metal Box: a strong overseas performance.

increasing competition next year from Continental Can which will open up its first UK plant making two-part cans in North Wales.

Metal Box recognizes this, though it points to the defensive qualities of canned foods in a recession. It is clear nevertheless that it is relying on its overseas businesses, including the push into the United States where a new plant has been opened in California, holding the balance for the next couple of years.

Dividend policy at this stage suggests that the board is erring on the side of optimism (comforted perhaps by relatively low gearing, of around 30 per cent). A 10 per cent increase in the interim payment suggests a prospective yield of 12 per cent, which is better than average, but may not be enough next year to underpin a share price of 246p, up 12p yesterday.

Jerusalem

Later this week the Israeli government of Mr Menachem Begin will receive a further reminder of the economic difficulties which were destined to follow in the train of its one real achievement since taking office in 1977, the signing of a peace treaty with Egypt.

On Sunday the Israelis will formally hand back to the Egyptians full control of the Sinai oilfield in the Gulf of Suez seized during the 1967 war. At present producing at a rate of 40,000 barrels a day, the offshore field is now meeting more than one fifth of Israel's domestic consumption and its loss will add greatly to the country's fuel import bill.

As well as the loss of the valuable oil field, the process of handing back the Sinai to President Sadat is saddling the Israelis with another financial burden which will add to their already dire economic plight. This is the estimated \$5,000m which is expected to be the final cost of redeploying a large section of the armed forces to new bases in the Negev, a sum which will be injected into an already overheated economy whose inflation rate is now expected to reach 120 per cent by the end of the year.

The imposition of the extra fuel bill comes in the same month as a government reshuffle which has given the Likud its second finance minister, a former businessman and outspoken critic of the Camp David agreement, Mr Yigael Hurvitz, an abrasive politician with a reputation for bluntness. Mr Hurvitz quickly let it be known in his own graphic language that he was prepared "to cut from the living flesh" in his efforts to reduce excessive spending and to ease the economy back to health.

Yesterday less than a fortnight after his appointment, Mr Hurvitz unveiled the first stage of his economic plan. Aimed at securing a quick and dramatic cut in domestic consumption, it is severely shocked even those well-informed local politicians who had been braced for tough new measures.

As well as a credit squeeze,

Mr Yigael Hurvitz (right), Israel's new Finance Minister, has said that he is prepared to cut from 'the living flesh' in his attempts to nurse the economy back to health



a freeze on public building and an import levy of 10 per cent Mr Hurvitz has also introduced a swingeing series of cuts in government subsidies. As a result, most dairy products, including milk, cheese and butter, have jumped in price by more than 100 per cent and most other basic foodstuffs from between 25 to 50 per cent.

Public transport, which went up two weeks ago, will increase in price by another 50 per cent on December 1st, telephone charges by 52 per cent, and electricity by 37 per cent.

Reliable analysts predict that the new package will lead to an immediate jump in the cost of living index of 15 per cent over the next month. There are also predictions that the measures will lead to lay-offs in private industry and bankruptcies among small firms. In an effort to reduce the excessively top-heavy public sector a cutback of some 17,500 public service jobs was also announced.

Initial trade union reaction was hostile, claiming that the burden of Israel's economic problems was being placed on the poor.

Inevitably, it is the problem of runaway inflation which will dominate Mr Hurvitz's early days in office and which if not quickly brought under control will almost certainly guarantee the coalition's defeat at the next general election as Professor

Haim Barkai, dean of social sciences at Israel's Hebrew University, explained: "We are now living through the nightmare that every European government is terrified of."

Even before this week's move price rises followed each other with bewildering regularity and consumers have been prepared to go to almost any length to get their money into goods and out of the devaluing local currency. Shops are even offering a roaring trade in \$2,500 colour television sets, although the Israeli broadcasting authority will not be transmitting in colour for at least another two years.

In spite of the astonishing pace of price increases, ordinary Israelis have not yet found 100 per cent inflation as painful as might be expected. This is because wages, pensions, loans, insurance, income tax and even government-issued bonds are directly linked to the cost of living index. As a commentator in the daily *Ha'aretz* news paper, remarked recently: "Most of the public has learned not only to live with inflation, but to flourish in its shadow."

Apart from any political considerations which might be imposed by the internal strains in the coalition, Mr Hurvitz's room for fiscal manoeuvre is also severely limited by the make-up of the Israeli budget,

doctrines of the American economist Dr Milton Friedman, who was invited to Jerusalem for consultations soon after the Likud victory ended 29 consecutive years of Labour rule. In face of the subsequent descent into economic crisis and the 65 per cent jump in the inflation rate it is not yet clear how many of these doctrines Mr Hurvitz will attempt to reverse.

Apart from inflation and the problems posed by that for the future health of Israeli democracy a number of the country's other main economic indicators are also in need of attention. The balance of payments deficit, which was \$2,300m in 1977, has now almost doubled and the accumulated foreign currency debt is standing at about \$13,000m.

Egypt's current foreign debt stands at \$22,000m and it was prominently the size of foreign debts incurred as a result of the long history of hostilities in the region which recently prompted Mr Arnon Gefny, governor of the Bank of Israel, to propose a type of "Marshall Plan" for the Middle East. He argued that what was needed was a financial bridge of up to \$30,000m over the next decade to help Israel and Egypt to achieve the difficult transition from war to peace.

In the absence of any concrete response so far to the suggestion Israel is seeking more than \$3,000m in loans and grants from the Middle East about \$1,000m more than it has sought in recent years.

A number of leading independent analysts are now publicly expressing the hope that the American government may seek to attach strings to the eventual package in order to ensure that the Israeli government really does take the drastic steps needed to put its economy in the right order. Professor Barkai, who like most local economists is highly critical of the government's performance, said: "One positive step towards recovery would be for the Carter Administration to attach the same sort of conditions to its loans to Israel as the International Monetary Fund did when it bailed out the last British Government."

Civil engineering: sorting the weak from the strong

Britain's big civil engineering contractors have until recently been able to postpone the consequences of deteriorating market conditions both at home, where output has slumped by more than 30 per cent since 1970, and abroad.

Profits of the large companies have shown a healthy growth belying claims made by the industry that it was being applied by public works. George Wimpey's profits, for example, grew sevenfold in 10 years, while those of the Costain group have risen from £2m to £47m since 1968.

Industry leaders, however, some stock market sceptics—argued that such prosperity could not last. They pointed to the difficulty in finding new contracts to replace lucrative overseas work nearing completion, and the tightening of margins as competition turned cut-throat.

This pessimism is now being vindicated. Wimpey has reported interim profits down by 42 per cent to £8.4m; those of John Laing fell by a third to £5m and Taylor Woodrow's from £8.1m to £7.7m. Costain managed to increase its half-time profits slightly, but it, too, has not escaped. Workload at the end of June was £310m against £700m a year earlier.

Worse, Higgs & Hill, whose half-time figures showed profits down £1.2m to £205,000, decided to call it a day and pull out of civil engineering after experiencing a variety of problems on contracts in the United Kingdom and the West Indies.

Contractors now appear resigned to the prospect of a 30 per cent cut in the home market have traditionally come from the public sector—and more modest returns in the four years since 1970.

With few opportunities for pressing further down-market in search of the "bread and butter" work previously handled by smaller companies, each large contractor is now anxious to switch contracting capacity elsewhere and use accumulated cash, where available, to diversify.

Mr C. T. Wyatt, chief executive of the Costain group, believes that the next few years will be difficult and will "sort out the weak and the strong". The large companies are already far less dependent on civil engineering than previously. But there is no room for complacency. There is tremendous pressure on construction companies to diversify into areas of high growth.

Dr Ralph Stacey, corporate planning manager of John Laing, explained: "Identifying new areas for expansion has not been easy, at least because there is little buoyancy in the markets traditionally allied to construction—and those to which it is simple to switch skills, manpower and equipment."

The private sector, where there has been a revival, can not provide sufficient work for the civil engineers. The companies are keeping quiet about their diversification plans. Wimpey is known to be interested in expanding further in the field of waste management, while Laing is one of a number pursuing more effort into industrial engineering. The company also believes its building materials side will benefit from the greater emphasis placed on thermal insulation.

Costain has made a number of small investments—in Capital and Counties property group and Streeters of Godalming, a smaller contractor, for example—but its main thrust appears to be into process engineering, through the acquisition of a small American company and continuing in-

terest in the British specialist, Whessex, where the company is bidding for a local contractor, and in America, where it hopes to expand mining activities.

Mr Frank Gibb, managing director of Taylor Woodrow Construction, also admits that after a number of fat years the pressure is on his and other companies to find profitable outlets for expertise and resources.

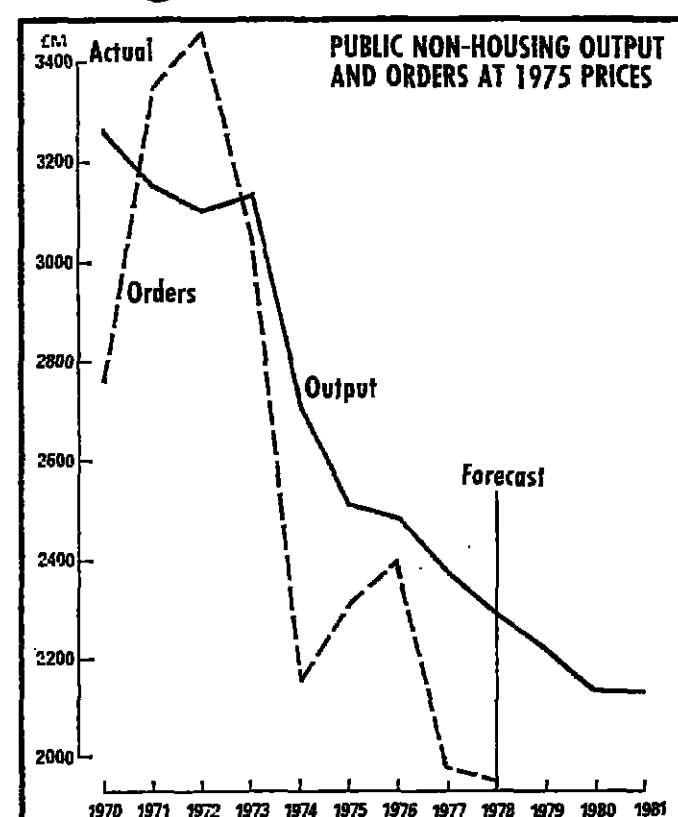
The group has been engaged in nuclear power station construction for more than 25 years, has been developing its expertise in energy-related fields since well before the 1973 energy crisis and began work on its first open-cut site in 1942.

Mr Gibb says the group is likely to announce a large, multi-million pound contract soon which will keep some of its civil engineering resources busy for four or five years to come. It is well placed, too, to win further power station building contracts.

According to Professor Philip M'Pherson, head of the Systems Science Department of the City University, such a ball was available—systems analysis.

In a paper to be delivered to the Ships Systems Symposium organized by the Nautical Institute at the University today he says that marine technology and economics obey the same logistic laws of growth as biological species and can be predicted. His paper does not say why he did not make a packet at the time.

Here is a postscript to my story yesterday about the bust of a miserable-looking man which *Conder Engineering* criticizes. The Satisfied Customer and displays in the entrance to its factories. Conder chairman Robin Cole tells me that there was once a very dissatisfied customer for the original. It was apparently sold to the Louvre in the 1860s as a head by Verocchio, of the 15th century Italian port Benvenuto. In fact, the bust was a fake by the nineteenth century Easton and was not of a poet but a tobacco worker.



Spearheading the group's push into the full range of energy-related activities is Taylor Woodrow Energy. It is involved through its associated companies in the oil, gas, project management and oil exploration in Yorkshire, as well as more traditional civil engineering and mining activities.

Whatever their short-term plans, the construction groups are anxious to "sweat out" the present difficulties and retain civil engineering capacity, if possible at existing levels. As Mr Wyatt explained, few in the industry now expect activity to return to the levels recorded in the late 1960s and early 1970s, but they do expect a return to more realistic levels of public investment in the infrastructure.

The fear, expressed by Dr Stacey and others, is that if inflationary pressures persist and successive governments continue to pursue capital projects, industry's ability to respond to increased demands will be gravely impaired.

These fears have been loudly voiced by the Federation of Civil Engineering Contractors, who for the first time have been asking members taking part in its regular workload survey whether they, in fact, have any civil work. Almost 20 per cent reported that they did not.

The all-industry "group of eight", comprising representatives of the main labour and employers' organizations and the professions, has repeatedly told ministers that investment in construction programmes which have no private sector equivalent, such as roads, water, sewerage, education and health, are quite inadequate.

Though worthwhile, all these efforts have so far brought little joy to the industry, which has come to expect cuts in spending on roads, water and other projects as outlined in last month's public expenditure White Paper.

Mr Michael Heseltine, Secretary of State for the Environment, says that the big civil engineering companies will survive. "They are good, fast-moving and tough." The indications for the next few years suggest strongly that they will need to be.

John Huxley

Business Diary: Gray's in • The piggyback now leaving...

When Gray just cannot cut it from the doomed BSC works at Shotton on December 1st, it was managing director of the BSC's strip division, until he was edged by the corporation's man, Sir Monty Finnisson, to the first of the killing stages in the killing of it.

withdraw into steel company with John Kay, his director of engineering, bereaved away on plans for steelmaking on Decade. Last week he announced he and associates could 49 per cent of the equity in the doomed plant, saving 500 of the 6,500 jobs that he lost.

Yesterday, it emerges that will continue to be closely involved with Shotton, indirectly of any bid. He was as successor to Sir Dai as chairman of the Development Agency.

In January, WDA provides investment capital for companies, a small business and tri-tract foreign investment to Principality.

1980, however, it will start raising a special £15m fund creating new opportunities and around Shotton. Since, though well-known in public life, has not been lived with the WDA before, must be assumed that his rise in the steel industry his contacts in the City are at his appointment.

The words "National Union of Railwaymen" occur so frequently in connection with unpleasantness that I take a perverse delight in recording this support from the NUR newspaper, *Transport Review*.

It appears that British Rail has been asked by the Stafford NUR branch secretary, Bro Hartshorne, to put back a station wheelbarrow crossing at Penkridge, Staffs. The crossing was used by passengers in wheelchairs.

One of Bro Hartshorne's NUR constituents at Penkridge, the newspaper says, "now carries disabled passengers across the track piggyback—hardly in keeping with the Advanced Passenger Train image."

"At other times", the paper continues, "villagers have been recruited from the square to help in carrying the disabled across the footbridge."

BR argues that there is no need for the crossing because station barrows have been drawn and, as passengers have to get on to the railway platform by using a flight of steps, they ought to be able to manage the footbridge.

How long I wonder, before an unamused NUR puts in for a piggyback allowance?

Like his former boss, Jim Slater, ex-Slater, Walker accountant, Peter Durrant, is making money writing. He wrote *The Bicycle Boys*, tonight's play on BBC2.



"If Mrs Thatcher gets this £1,100m from the EEC I suppose civil servants will put in for a whacking rise."

The CBI's controversial move to Harry Hyams's Centre Point has taken an unusual twist. I hear, among the many developers interested in taking the 125-year lease now out to tender on the CBI's present headquarters in Tottenham, West-Minster, is said to be none other than one H. Hyams.

The asking price for the lease is £4,400—which is the cost of doing up the CBI's 14 floors at Tottenham Street—a rent of £50,000 for two years and then the clincher, a percentage of the rent the eventual occupier will pay the Tottenham Street developer.

CBI member firm Y. J. Lovell is doing up the new CBI offices, which should be and may even be, ready in April. The CBI has to start paying Hyams's Oldham Estates £750,000 a year rent from the end of June. The CBI is to take possession of Tottenham Street by September.

CBI staff are dreading the move and there are those who question the wisdom of the confederation's transferring into this monument to 1960's style capitalism. However, the rent is less than half that of modern space in Westminster and there is room for the CBI's council chamber. What more could the tab brass want?

Incidentally, I know the percentage offer to the CBI of the eventual rent on Tottenham Street will clinch the deal—but that information is not out to tender.

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Ross Davies

FINANCIAL NEWS AND MARKET REPORTS

Stock markets

Gilts band-wagon goes into reverse

The second day of the new account turned into a dull affair yesterday following Monday's bright start.

Fears of an all-out strike at British Leyland as a result of the sacking of one of its shop stewards was soon given added impetus by reports that Zambia had declared war on Zimbabwe-Rhodesia.

As a result, Southern Rhodesian Bonds were immediately marked down, with losses of up to £1. By the close, they had rallied slightly although Southern Rhodesia 2½ per cent 65-70 was £7 lower at £105 as were Southern Rhodesia 6 per cent 78-81 £11 lower at £135.

The Cons Gold bandwagon seems to have stopped rolling. Most of the buying was for friendly parties, and so will probably not be long-lived. Anyone who jumps aboard now could find the wagon going down rather than up. Yesterday the share eased 6p to 331p.

The boom being experienced by gilts-edged securities also came to a full stop yesterday, with active two-way trading, resulting in falls of £1 in Jongs and losses of between £1 to £1.33 per cent. The Treasury finished the day £1 lower at £231. Dealers are now admitting that the initial attraction of the £800m of Treasury, 15 per cent 1985, is now beginning to look less of a good buy but is not yet certain how much foreign interest will be shown.

The lack of interest experienced among equities was reflected in the F index which opened 0.7 off, before dipping to 5.0 at 2 pm. A rally after hours saw the index manage to finish off the bottom, 3.6 lower at 407.7.

Interest among leading industrial shares subsided as the market awaited with interest figures from three of the leaders tomorrow. ICI firmed

ahead of its nine-month report 1p to 339p, but Beecham with interim figures due slipped 2p to 126p and Courtauld remained unchanged at 76p. Others to remain firm included Glaxo at 400p, Fisons at 237p and BAT's at 245p as Pilkington Brothers dipped 5p to 248p and Rank Organisation lost 4p to 180p.

Oils were about the only sector to remain active, with much interest being shown in Tricentrol ahead of third-quarter today, the shares finishing 13p up at 258p.

Speculation continued to surround Oil Exploration as investors waited for news of the mystery bidder. After touching 730p the shares finished with a net gain of 3p to 710p. Lasso gained 10p in sympathy to 352p. Elsewhere in oils, BP improved 6p to 370p and the "new" gained 2p to 163p, while Shell improved 4p to 340p and Ultra-rim rose 8p to 354p.

Companies affected by the situation in Zimbabwe-Rhodesia included Stocklake, 9p lower at 100p and Turner & Newall, a penny lighter at 116p. Lonrho remained firm at 66p.

Among companies reporting, Metal Box confounded the experts by reporting figures above most market expectations. As a result, the shares jumped 8p to 246p. Wade Potteries remained unchanged at 45p, while Moran Tea

retreated 5p to 305p after its trading statement.

Talks between British Vita, 2p down at 125p, and Vita-Tex over a possible takeover resulted in Vita-Tex being suspended at 71p, unchanged. GEC slipped 3p to 324p, while rumours that the bid for Avelis might fall left the latter 3p lower at 234p. EMI finished 3p off at 130p and Thoma dipped 8p to 296p. Further nervous selling left Whessex a further 4p down at 128p.

News that Eurocanadian had sold its stake in Furness Withy was greeted with a rise of 3p to 235p, while renewed interest in Ladbroke, currently appealing for the return of its gambling licence, saw the shares gain 7p to 146p.

Banks were depressed, much in line with the rest of the market, although an encouraging half-time statement from Hambros saw the shares rise 13p to 267p. But the "big four" clearing banks all showed losses as in the case of National Westminster 10p off at 323p, Barclays and Lloyds 35p and 27p respectively and Midland were 8p lower at 332p.

Insurances were another weak spot, with most of the majors retreating between 4p and 5p. Reduced interim figures from C. E. Heath saw the shares fall 7p to 168p. News that Carroon and Black had increased its stake in Minet Holdings to over 10 per cent in the

past two days with the purchase of over one million shares through the market did little for the share price, which remained unchanged at 97p.

Two bearish circulars clipped brewery shares by a couple of pence in most cases and properties went into reverse following their attempt at a rally on Monday.

Tricentrol has come up 21p to 255p in a week ahead of today's nine-month figures. Few now doubt how good they will be—some speak of profits for the full year indicated at around £17m against £8m—and analysts have been invited to discuss the figures today. This is usually a cheerful sign. The thrust behind profits is the group's ability to sell a lot of output on the spot market at 140 or so a barrel which means that 1980 will also be a wonderful year.

Profit-taking clipped 6p from Cons Gold, a speculative stock of late, to finish at 331p. Equity turnover on November 19, was £78,210m (12,366 bargains). Active stocks, yesterday, according to Exchange Telegraph, were Tricentrol, EMI, Cons Gold, RTZ, BP, GEC, Barclays Bank, Nat West Bank, Lasso, Ultramar, Turner & Newall, Marks & Spencer, Beecham and Avelis.

Latest results

Company	Sales	Profits	Earnings	Div	Pay	Year's
			per share			total
Anglo-Amr Asphalt (1)	1.3(1.1)	0.09(0.003)	1.06(1.05)	15.2	15.2	15.2
Equity Income (F)	—	0.77(0.67)	9.4(7.4)	20.12	13.5(11.3)	—
Evans of Leeds (1)	1.63(1.39)	0.96(0.85)	1.0(0.5)	11.1	(2.2)	—
Globe Inv (1)	—	9.7(16.42)	2.2(2.5)	31.1	(5.5)	—
Grant Bros (1)	—	—	1.62(0.58)	1.32(1.52)	—	—
Gl Portland Ests (1)	—	3.25(2.75)	2.7(2.3)	1.0(0.65)	31.1	—
Hal Crooks (F)	16.0(15.0)	0.01(0.01)	2.5(1.87)	1.0(0.82)	28.2	—
Hiorau Tea (F)	—	—	—	—	17.1	10(154)
Reynolds (1)	16.74(17.38)	0.78(0.70)	8.05(7.14)	14.5(13.9)	22.1	—
Tyack & Turner (F)	5.1(4.3)	0.03(0.01)	2.1(5.8)	—	1.25(2.87)	—
Wade Potteries	9.3(8.6)	1.3(1.0)	10.39(9.95)	1.32(0.78)	—	1.82(1.12)

Dividends in this table are shown net of tax on per share basis. Elsewhere in Business News dividends are shown on a gross basis. To establish gross multiply the net dividend by 1.428. Profits are shown pre-tax and earnings are net. a Loss; b Excludes special dividend of 0.8p; c For nine months.

W. Tyzack, Turner slumps: no final dividend

W. Tyzack, Sons and Turner's pre-tax profit plummeted from £137,000 to £30,000 in the year ending July 28 1979 surprising the board which announced that the company's internal accounting figures showed a higher level of profit than now reported at the interim stage.

With the departure of the group's finance director, Mr Edward Bridgeman, immediate steps are being taken to improve the situation, said Mr Timothy Reed, chairman. The national problems of last winter, higher interest charges, the strength of sterling and pressure on margins were responsible for the lower profits, which meant the final dividend had been passed. An interim of 1.92p gross has already been paid compared with last year's total of 3.85p gross.

Smiths Industries' outlook uncertain

The engineering strike has made forecasting an increase in profits this year at Smiths Industries more uncertain, Mr

E. Roy Sissons, the chairman, says in his annual statement. But the order book is "encouraging", the balance sheet strong with gearing of only 15 per cent and remedial action already taken in divisions connected with the vehicle industry.

Mitchell Cotts team in Uganda

A team from Mitchell Cotts, the plantation company, arrived in Kampala yesterday less than two weeks after agreement had been reached with the Ugandan Government on re-vitalising the tea estates formerly owned by Mitchell Cotts and neglected by the Idi Amin government.

The team, consisting of two tea planters and an accountant, arrived just as news was breaking in London of Ugandan opposition to the agreement which gives Mitchell Cotts 49 per cent of the tea estates. The remainder is in the hands of the Ugandan Government. No compensation terms have been revealed.

But Mr Philip Dunkley, chairman of Mitchell, said that so far as he knew the agreement stands. He declined to comment on reports that the overall settlement over the plantations could be worth £7m.

Interim payment raised by Globe Trust

As well as lifting the interim from 3.73p to 3.92p gross, Globe Investment Trust is paying a special dividend of 1.14p gross. In the half-year to Sept. 30, pre-tax earnings rose from £8.42m to £9.77m. Globe's board expects to recommend a final payment of 5p, which would make a total of 8.92p—excluding the special dividend—compared with last year's 8.15p.

Rothschild to advise Norwest Holst

The board of Norwest Holst has appointed N. M. Rothschild & Sons as financial advisers to the company and the minority shareholders. This follows the

recent announcement that Messrs R. Slater and A. J. Lilley had informed Norwest of their desire to enter into discussions which may lead to their making an offer for the ordinary capital of Norwest not already owned by Dunham Mount Holdings, which they control. Shareholders are advised to take no action until a further announcement is made by Norwest.

Up by one third at Wade Potteries

After topping the firm mark for the first time in 1977-78, more progress was made by Wade Potteries during the 12 months to July 31 last. Pre-tax profits rose by 31.7 per cent to £1.36m, another record, net assets per share rose from 30.08p to 38.69p and the total dividend is being boosted from 1.67p (adjusted) to 2.6p gross. Capital expenditure in 1978-79 reached £831,000.

Demand remains at a "satisfactory" level and the board feels the year ahead should be one of further progress.

Rehabilitation of Hambros Bank continues with better half-year

By Our Banking Correspondent

The rehabilitation of Hambros Bank after its troubles in the Norwegian shipping industry continues with the half-yearly statement indicating after-tax profits—before investment gains and extraordinary items—"significantly above" those of the same period last year.

Investment gains boosted after-tax profits £4.8m in the year to last March but this year London and Wall Street markets have not provided anything like the same degree of trading opportunities.

As last year, associated companies' contributions to the shape of Hambros Life Assurance and Berkeley Hambros, both of which have recently announced sharply higher dividends, were a major factor in the improvement.

But Hambros also announces banking profits "higher" than last year. Although there has



Mr. Jocelyn Hambros, chairman of Hambros Bank.

been no balance sheet growth in the half year and the corset has kept the lid on the loan book, the banking side has benefited hugely from the high sterling and dollar interest

rates in the period, which have helped to offset the squeeze on margins elsewhere. Last year's growth in acceptance has also not been repeated, largely because the high cost of sterling borrowing and the strength of the currency has kept foreign customers at bay. The industrial leasing side continues to make good progress while the corporate finance division, helped by the Charteris Corporation reconstruction, and the Thoma/EMI bid, has been kept active.

Meanwhile, the group is still relaxed about the Rekenen shipping loans. The interim dividend has been increased by a quarter to 7½p a share gross which helped the shares gain 13p to 267p yesterday.

Another merchant banking group to report higher profits is Mercury Securities which in addition to its metal trading, insurance and shipping interests takes in the S.G. Warburg group.

HAT shrugs off building gloom

By Our Financial Staff

Despite the downturn in the building and construction industry the HAT group continues to make up ground.

Reporting turnover for the six months to August 31 1979 up to £40m against £35m the building trades and suppliers group produced a profit of £1.7m—38 per cent increase over the £1.23m during the same period last time.

One of the major reasons for HAT's halt to declining profits which were down to £3.5m in 1977 has been a conscious shift in the group's trading

stance. It has moved away from supplying the building trades to concentrating on discrete retail work.

Traditionally the group's major earnings spur has always been during the second half of the year. Up until 1977 profits increase has been as much as 146 per cent in the last half over the first.

Although chairman Mr Alfred Telling is not predicting an increase as high as this, all the indications are that the group should turn in profits over the 1977 full year as high as £3.8m. Helping to boost profits will

be HAT's new maintenance scheme aimed at both the domestic and private building markets. Already a pilot scheme has been launched successfully in Bristol and an operation established in London. By the end of the current financial year, a total of eight main

main contractors will have been established across the country. An interim dividend of 143p a share gross has been declared which shows a growth of 21.2 per cent. Earnings per share have increased from 1.87p during the same period last time to 2.5p.

Gt Portland ahead of expectations

By Allison Mitchell

Following in the footsteps of Land Securities, which reported last week, property group Great Portland Estates turned in interim profits slightly ahead of expectations.

In the six months to September 30, pre-tax revenue rose by almost a fifth from £2.75m to £3.25m on gross rental income up from £4.3m to £4.78m.

In line with its accounting policy, Portland has charged to pre-tax revenue the £336,000 spent on exceptional repairs from the refurbishment of buildings. This compares with a previous £157,000. If this cost is added back into the figures the gross revenue shows a rise of almost a quarter on the comparable period.

Group chairman Mr Basil Samuel said yesterday that the six month improvement came from an increase in the number of properties under rent.

For shareholders there is an interim dividend of 1.42p against a previous 1p. The share yesterday eased 2p to 176p where they yield a historic 4 per cent. The recent property revaluation raised the net assets per share from a previous 209p to 390p.

Johnnies chief on gold price

A warning that the recession developing in the United States could have an adverse effect on the gold price in the short run has been given by Sir Albert Robinson, chairman of Johnnies Consolidated Investment.

But a gradual rise in the gold price may be expected if governments are unsuccessful in containing inflation, Sir Albert said.

Reviewing Johnnies' year, the chairman said that the company has substituted local capital for foreign borrowing because of high international interest rates. Another Rand 25m (£13.9m) will be invested in Randfontein Estates Gold Mining this year. The high gold price has allowed Western Areas to lower its grade.

Sir Albert accused the South African Government of taking too cautious a view of how much gold the country could afford to export. He said the current ceiling of 44 million tons should be raised.

Citicorp overhaul

New York—Citicorp, whose chief subsidiary is New York's Citibank, is to submit to its directors a plan for sweeping changes. The restructuring is based on a new master plan for reaching the giant banking concern's goals, according to some sources. It could also offer

clues to future succession to the top executive post currently held by Mr Walter R. Wriston, the company's 60-year-old chairman.—AP-Dow Jones.

RTZ modernisation

Duisburg—Duisburger Kupferhütte, a subsidiary of Rio Tinto-Zinc, will invest £10.52m to modernise its copper plant. The supervisory board approved the investment, which forms the first stage of a major programme due for completion by the end of 1981.—Reuters.

International

BASE AG hopeful

BASF of Germany expects its 1979 world group results to improve—extensively—on last year's levels, with turnover rising 20 per cent and earnings also up considerably.

The company will announce its results for the first nine months next week. Earlier this year the group announced first-half profits of Dm847m against Dm56m.

AEG-Telefunken

Frankfurt—A spokesman for Allianz Versicherungs-AG rebutted a report in the West

Rumours of Zambian war stir markets

by Michael Priest

Rumours that Zambia declared war on Zimbabwe-Rhodesia sent tremors through the markets yesterday. Prices of stocks and bonds in Rhodesian commodity markets showed uncertainty and prices recovered and then a general steadying became clear that or Zambian mobilisation had occurred.

Most dealers took the news as a natural reaction to Rhodesian incursions into its territory. One commodities dealer mentioned of copper, Zambia export: "Until the up the Victoria Falls, I won't be a buyer." The closed up on last week, a feeling was that with a log of about 90,000 awaiting shipment from Salama the price was no vulnerable.

Price of the bond deals confident that a settlement be reached soon at La Bourse and that a British error could be installed in early as early as next week. Rhodesian bonds, which 14 years of paying no interest to UK holder attracted attention in weeks, was considered a reaction to the Zambian move.

The general feeling was most likely developments in southern Africa range ready, been discounted, panics are quickly prepared to react to check in of their assets as so possible.

German weekly magazine Spiegel that AEG-Telefunken raising Dm300m in a pro note loan.

A report in the latest Der Spiegel said German insurance companies are acting on behalf of AEG's leading unit, a subsidiary of AEG-Telefunken, to raise Dm300m in a Schuldenschein, a promissory note loan interest. However, the man said a meeting with insurance companies to assist in the raising of the money was not yet held.

The spokesman said it soon to predict the outcome of the meeting, but added that AEG could take the form of a loan. He said the Dm300m was higher than the probable involved; while the 5% mentioned in the report not correspond with the to discussed.

BMW listing in Vic

Munich—Bayerische Motorenwerke (BMW) says it have been admitted for listing and trading on the Bourse, from January 1, is the first foreign listed BMW, whose shares are in Frankfurt, Munich, W. Lin, Duesseldorf and Ha—Reuters.

C.E. Heath & Co. Limited

INTERIM REPORT 1979-80

Unaudited results for the six months to 30th September 1979

COMPARATIVE RESULTS	Six months to 30th September	Year to 31st March
	1979	1978
	£'000	£'000
Net Brokerage income	2,804	3,602
Net Underwriting income	2,524	2,248
Operating profit	5,872	6,538
Net profit attributable	2,746	3,132
Earnings per share	9.1p	10.7p
Dividend per share (gross)	10.0p	2.42p

- Total group profit before tax was £5,872,000 (1978—£6,538,000). Interim Dividend is 4.3279p per share gross plus an amount equal to the final dividend payment for 1978/79. Accordingly the combined dividend distributed will be 7p net per share, equivalent to 10p gross per share. Payment will be made on 3rd January 1980.

- Insurance broking income was £8.62 million compared with £8.80 million and but for the strength of sterling we would have recorded a growth in brokerage of some 10% over the previous year.

- Underwriting operations contributed £2,524,000—an increase of £276,000. Including approximately £800,000 from new French subsidiary Groupe Sprinks. Australian operations have continued to develop satisfactorily although devaluation of the Australian dollar has depressed the results in sterling terms.

- The acquisition of new business and the containment of expenses continue to be our prime objectives.

F.R.D. HOLLAND, Chairman

Copies of the full Interim Report are available from the Secretary, C. E. Heath & Co. Limited, 100, Cannon Street, London EC3N 1NR. Telephone: 01-493 2458



INTERNATIONAL INSURANCE BROKERS REINSURANCE BROKERS AND UNDERWRITING AGENTS

Business appointments

New president elected at Firestone

Mr. John J. Nevin has been elected president of Firestone.

Mr. R. W. S. Baker has become deputy managing director of Sun Life Assurance of Canada (UK).

Mr. David Kiggell has been made regional director of the youth east region of Smarts Laundries Group.

Mr. Chris Chaplin has been appointed a director of Stonehill Furniture.

Mr. P. Ferdinand has been made a director of Kuehne and Nagel UK.

Mr. David Trimby has joined the board of Mears Contractors as financial director and company secretary.

Dr. E. O. Walwyn-Jones and Mr. T. Donald Smith have joined the board of World-Wide Assurance.

Mr. David Roxburgh has resigned as chairman and group managing director of Dorothy Perkins following the completion of the transfer of management control to the Euro group.

Mr. Neville Beaton and Mr. Martin Hiley have been appointed to the board of Canadian Foods.

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Mr. Neville Beaton and Mr. Martin Hiley have been appointed to the board of Canadian Foods.

Dearer money cuts US stocks

For the first nine months of this year, United States corporate managers vowed to hold down inventories—but in every month through September, inventories increased.

Last month, however, the executives apparently started to do what they had talked about doing for so long.

A key to the sudden switch to inventory cutting seems to be the United States Federal Reserve's tightening moves announced on October 6. The October survey by the 22,000-member National Association of Purchasing Management, indicates that 80 per cent of the 225 purchasing agents surveyed say that the rising cost of money is affecting inventory policies.

The upshot: the largest monthly cut in inventories in almost five years.

This indicates that even after fairly good business activity last month, managements are reacting to the higher money rates and pulling in their horns.

Mr. Charles Haffey, chairman of the survey committee, says that the corporate purchasing division of Pfizer.

"The Fed really applied heavy brakes, and managements are becoming very cautious about adding to inventory stocks. They are taking a close look at what they thought was a one-month supply and discovering they really have three to four months' worth of inventories."

Even before the Fed abruptly raised interest rates to defend the dollar, companies had ample reason to worry that their inventories might become a problem. They were painfully aware of what happened in the last recession.

All this year, corporate managers have been warning that they have been making the same vow. They said they had learned a lesson from the 1973-75 recession, which was deepened and prolonged by a huge build-up in inventories that had to be liquidated before the economy could begin moving upward.

The inventory sell-off in the first half of 1975 was by far the largest on record, and as companies cutback their buying, there were many plant closings and major layoffs.

But in spite of the warning, many companies have been unable to avoid repeating it, businessmen allowed, inventories to climb, although the Sep-

tember rise was less than 0.1 per cent. According to the latest statistics from the US Commerce Department, inventories grew in the third quarter at a seasonally adjusted annual rate of almost \$20bn (about \$9m).

This was a little higher than the first quarter rate but down substantially from the second quarter's 2.5 per cent. The rate bloated by big inventories of cars.

Inventories climbed for several reasons. Some types of business, such as capital-goods makers, were still thriving—so they were stocking up to stay abreast of orders. Other industries, such as cars, had high inventories because of weak sales, and some businessmen were hedge-buying in fear that certain materials may become scarce.

Such a rise in inventories does not surprise economists. They say a build-up around the onset of a recession is normal because economic activity is then relatively high.

But the increase in inventories, particularly in relation to current sales, to about

a creme de la creme

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The candidate would preferably be on a career path, with a good knowledge of shorthand and typing, and a good knowledge of the business of the company. A good knowledge of the company's products and services would be an advantage. The successful candidate will be responsible for the day-to-day running of the office, and will be required to handle a large volume of work. Salary £5,000 p.a. plus expenses. 4 weeks holiday. BUPA and Life Insurance.

Suitably qualified applicants should write with full c.v. to Mrs. J. E. Bellerby, Rine Circle Industries Ltd., Portland House, Stag Place, London SW1E 5B (nearby opposite Victoria Station).

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A WELL SITUATED DAIRY FARM with delightful Period Farmhouse.
4 Reception Rooms, 3½ Bedrooms, 2 Bathrooms, Utility, 2 Dressing Rooms, Kitchen, 3½ Acres of land, 2½ Acres of woodland, 2½ Acres of pasture (subject to planning). Well planned buildings. Productive grassland and brookland.
ABOUT 200 ACRES
For Sale by Private Treaty
Lewes Office, 201 High Street (07916) 5411 (Ref. 68D 1483)

HAMPSHIRE COAST

Bognor Regis 3 miles, Lymington 5 miles
MODERNISED VICTORIAN FARMHOUSE on edge of the New Forest with views to the Solent and Isle of Wight.
3 Reception Rooms, Study, 6 Bedrooms, 2 Bathrooms, Night Storage Heating, Garage, Stables and Outbuildings. Swimming Pool. Garden and Paddock.
About 1½ Acres
London Office, 01-629 7282 or Salisbury Office, 41 Millford Street, (0722) 28741 (Ref. TA5699)

FREEHOLD FOR SALE A PIECE OF MAYFAIR IN SCOTLAND

Situated in the select district of POLLOWSHIELDS, GLASGOW, a lower conversion of an attractive stone villa providing luxurious accommodation fitted out to the high standard usually associated with Mayfair. Comprising: Hall, unusual Reception/Lounge, extra large Sitting Room, ultra modern Kitchen, generous Dining Room, Double Bedroom (one with luxury bathroom en suite), Study, Den, Utility Room, Second Bathroom, Cloakroom and Sauna.
Attractive features include double garage, secluded garden, original carved work, timber panelling and spiral staircase which, combined with the extremely high standard of decoration and the top quality fitted furniture and carpets included in the sale, push this property beyond comparison with any similar residence in the West of Scotland.
The freehold is for sale at offers in excess of £70,000 presenting the opportunity of acquiring accommodation suitable for an individual or company seeking a top quality residence in a popular area.
All inquiries to:

Thistle Developments Limited

9 BURNFIELD AVENUE, GLASGOW, G46 7TL

TELEPHONE: 041-633 1773

LONDON & SUBURBAN

MARBLE ARCH MEWS, NW1. 232,500
Charming semi-detached house in attractive quiet street. 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 2 reception rooms, 2nd floor flat, full kitchen, double garage, 2 cars, 2nd floor flat, full kitchen, double garage, 2 cars, 2nd floor flat, full kitchen, double garage, 2 cars.
ST. JOHN'S WOOD, NW8. 250,000
Excellent family fit in prestigious street. 4 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 2 reception rooms, 2nd floor flat, full kitchen, double garage, 2 cars, 2nd floor flat, full kitchen, double garage, 2 cars.
CLOSE LITTLE VENTURE, W2. 250,000
Superb detached house in quiet street. 4 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 2 reception rooms, 2nd floor flat, full kitchen, double garage, 2 cars, 2nd floor flat, full kitchen, double garage, 2 cars.
LEONARD COURT, NW. 245,850
Situated in a quiet street, this is a 4 bedroom, 2 bathroom, 2 reception rooms, 2nd floor flat, full kitchen, double garage, 2 cars, 2nd floor flat, full kitchen, double garage, 2 cars.
THORNTON HOUSE, SW1. 212,000
Situated in a quiet street, this is a 4 bedroom, 2 bathroom, 2 reception rooms, 2nd floor flat, full kitchen, double garage, 2 cars, 2nd floor flat, full kitchen, double garage, 2 cars.
RECENT'S PARK, NW1. 250,000
Situated in a quiet street, this is a 4 bedroom, 2 bathroom, 2 reception rooms, 2nd floor flat, full kitchen, double garage, 2 cars, 2nd floor flat, full kitchen, double garage, 2 cars.

LONDON FLATS

LANGLEY-TAYLOR

SOUTH-FACING GROUND FLOOR FLAT

N.W.3

2 bedrooms, bathroom, 2nd floor flat, full kitchen, double garage, 2 cars, 2nd floor flat, full kitchen, double garage, 2 cars.

ATTRACTIVE MODERN

MAISONETTE

S.W.5

2 bedrooms, bathroom, 2nd floor flat, full kitchen, double garage, 2 cars, 2nd floor flat, full kitchen, double garage, 2 cars.

8. Vauxhall Buildings, Gray's Inn, W.C.1R

100-year-old, 2nd floor flat, full kitchen, double garage, 2 cars, 2nd floor flat, full kitchen, double garage, 2 cars.

Tel.: 01-242 5038

WESTMINSTER

PIMLICO, S.W.1

Charming and unusual split level flat in new conversion of historic house. 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 2nd floor flat, full kitchen, double garage, 2 cars, 2nd floor flat, full kitchen, double garage, 2 cars.

Tel.: 01-242 5038

RAILING

TWO FLOOR FLAT

Two double bedrooms, two reception rooms, 2nd floor flat, full kitchen, double garage, 2 cars, 2nd floor flat, full kitchen, double garage, 2 cars.

Tel.: 01-242 5038

CORNWALL GARDENS, S.W.7

Exceptional detached first floor flat in two double bedrooms, two reception rooms, 2nd floor flat, full kitchen, double garage, 2 cars, 2nd floor flat, full kitchen, double garage, 2 cars.

Tel.: 01-242 5038

NR. HARRODS, S.W.3

Immaculate lower ground floor flat in two double bedrooms, two reception rooms, 2nd floor flat, full kitchen, double garage, 2 cars, 2nd floor flat, full kitchen, double garage, 2 cars.

Tel.: 01-242 5038

MID-SUSSEX - COUNTRY

Luxury small country house with 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 2nd floor flat, full kitchen, double garage, 2 cars, 2nd floor flat, full kitchen, double garage, 2 cars.

Tel.: 01-242 5038

FORTHCOMING AUCTIONS

FREEHOLD BUILDING

PLOT: TOTTERIDGE GREEN, N.20

of 1/2 acre overlooking farmland

STURTS & TIVENDALE

1981, High Road, Wokingham, RG40 2AA

01-242 5038

LEGAL NOTICES

In the Matter of the COMPANIES ACT 1947 and the COMPANIES ACT 1967.

NOTICE is hereby given pursuant to Section 203 of the Companies Act 1947 and Section 203 of the Companies Act 1967.

that the following is a list of the names of the persons who are entitled to receive notice of the annual general meeting of the company.

The annual general meeting of the company will be held at 4.00 p.m. on 15th December 1979.

Further details from the Companies Office.

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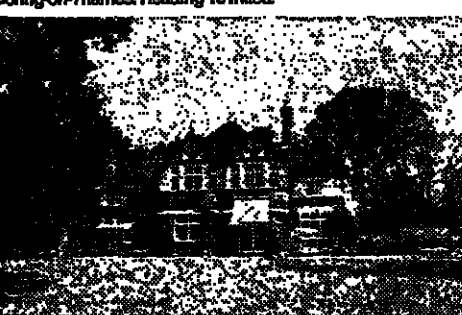
COMMERCIAL SERVICES

TELEX - Europe/Overseas. Daily. 10.15 a.m. - 5.00 p.m. (except Saturdays, Sundays and Public Holidays).

Sutton, 01-242 7833.

OXFORDSHIRE

Goring-on-Thames, Reading 10 miles.



An attractive family house with magnificent views and access to the river

34 6 3 3 Oil H 4

Additional features: Boat house with accommodation above. Outbuildings.

For sale freehold with about 2¼ acres.

Joint Agents: MARTIN & POLE, JOHN D. WOOD, Goring-on-Thames

Tel: 01493 25411 (01493 25411)

KNIGHT FRANK & RUTLEY, London Office (Tel: 01-629 8171)

(0225777)

DORSET

Wareham (Waterloo about 2 hours), Dorchester 17 miles.

A fine listed Georgian house with frontage on the River Frome

23 516 2 Gas 3

For sale freehold with about ½ acre

Joint Agents: SAVILLS, Wareham (Tel: 0222 887381)

KNIGHT FRANK & RUTLEY, London Office (Tel: 01-629 8171)

(0240817)

WILTSHIRE

Pewsey 7 miles, Marlborough 6 miles.



A period house in an undisturbed position with lovely views over the Pewsey Vale

3 7 3 3 Oil 4 4

Additional features: Cottage adjoining available.

For sale freehold with about 1¼ acres

Apply: LONDON OFFICE (Tel: 01-629 8171)

(0225777)

By Direction of the Secretary of State for Defence

A fine development of 82 modern single storey houses with 3 and 4 bedrooms at Hooe, Plymouth, Devon

Occupying an outstanding position about 5 miles from the City Centre.

In all about 8 acres, including an area of open space.

For sale by auction with vacant possession as a whole on 13th December 1979 (unless previously sold)

Apply: LONDON OFFICE (Tel: 01-629 8171)

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SURREY Limpsfield Chart

Central London 26 miles (Victoria/London Bridge)

AN ATTRACTIVE FAMILY HOUSE OCCUPYING A QUIET RURAL POSITION AND SURROUNDED BY A LOVELY GARDEN

Cloakroom, Drawing Room, Sun Room, Dining Room, Kitchen and Domestic Offices, Main Suite of Bed room, Bathroom and Study/Dressing Room. Further Suite of Bedroom and Bathroom, 6 Further Bedrooms and 2 Bathrooms. Full Oil Fired Central Heating, Gardening and Coach House. Heated Swimming Pool with Changing Pavilion.

In all about 2 Acres (Ref DCM)

23 Berkeley Square, London W1X 6AL

01-629 9050

SUFFOLK/NORFOLK BORDER

Large detached house in quiet street. 4 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 2 reception rooms, 2nd floor flat, full kitchen, double garage, 2 cars, 2nd floor flat, full kitchen, double garage, 2 cars.

Tel.: 01-242 5038

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DRUCE

Large detached house in quiet street. 4 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 2 reception rooms, 2nd floor flat, full kitchen, double garage, 2 cars, 2nd floor flat, full kitchen, double garage, 2 cars.

Tel.: 01-242 5038

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